

Public attitudes toward crime and criminal justice-related topics

Each year numerous public opinion surveys in the United States focus on criminal justice topics. These surveys are conducted by polling and research organizations as part of general social surveys or specifically for public and private organizations. Other surveys are conducted by government agencies or commissions concerned with specific problems. Selected populations such as high school seniors, college students, or parents often are the focus of these efforts. Results from a wide variety of opinion polls, examining attitudes toward many criminal justice issues, are presented in this section.

Initially addressed are public perceptions of important problems and issues such as crime and violence, and problems facing respondents' local communities. Included in this series are questions focusing on teenagers' behaviors (e.g., factors determining whether a teenager tries illegal drugs and underage drinking). Additional tables explore school-related concerns including the problems faced by schools and students' fear of school-related victimization. Attitudes about parental responsibility for crimes committed by their children are included in this section as well.

The next series of tables relates to the confidence people express in numerous institutions including the criminal justice system, as a whole, and in the police and the U.S. Supreme Court, specifically. Ratings of certain aspects of the prison system in the United States also are displayed. Ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers, police, and judges are presented, as are various measures of police performance and behavior (e.g., treatment of persons of different races, respondents' fear police will stop and arrest them when innocent, officers striking a citizen, police brutality, and increased law enforcement powers).

Perceptions of the level of crime in the country, and in the respondent's own area, are the topics of the next set of tables. Information is presented on feelings of safety walking alone and at home at night. Reports of whether respondents engaged in selected behaviors, such as buying a gun for protection, or carrying mace or pepper spray, because of their concern over crime also are included. Several tables cover perceptions of factors contributing to violence and attitudes concerning the effectiveness of measures to reduce the crime and drug problems (e.g., legislation, drug treatment, level of spending, and severity of courts). Attitudes toward the availability of criminal records of juveniles and ex-offenders, and the

treatment of juveniles who commit violent crimes are included.

The focus of the section then shifts to public attitudes toward capital punishment. There are many tables on perceptions about the death penalty and people convicted of murder as well as those serving life without parole. Also explored are attitudes toward the death penalty for selected groups such as women, the mentally retarded, and juveniles; rationales given by respondents for supporting the death penalty; and beliefs about the deterrent effect of the death penalty.

Many public opinion surveys have examined the firearms and gun control issues, and the next series of tables presents attitudes on these topics. Tables report on the prevalence of gun ownership, attitudes toward numerous gun control measures, and legislation covering the sale and possession of firearms.

Attitudes about the legalization of marijuana, doctors prescribing marijuana for medical purposes, and the harmfulness of drug use have been examined among several populations, including the general public, teenagers, high school seniors, and young adults. This segment of the section presents a large number of tables drawn from the results of several student surveys including the Monitoring the Future Project and PRIDE Surveys. Included are students' attitudes about selected social problems, such as the availability and harmfulness of both alcohol and drug use. Annual surveys of high school seniors examine their attitudes and beliefs about social problems, crime and violence, the performance of police and the courts, harmfulness of drug and alcohol use and cigarette smoking, perceptions of the availability of drugs, and the legalization of marijuana. Attitudes of eighth and tenth graders toward alcohol and drug use and cigarette smoking, and perceptions of the availability of drugs also are included. Data from annual surveys of college freshmen mirror many of the issues explored among high school students, and further ask about legalization of marijuana and abortion, the rights of criminal defendants, the death penalty, homosexual relationships, drug testing, and gun control. The section concludes with presentations of public attitudes on doctor-assisted suicide, the distribution of pornography, and the legality of homosexual relations and abortion.

When available, survey results are displayed by demographic characteristics of respondents—age, sex, race, income, and occupation—enabling comparisons across social dimensions. Some questions have been asked repeatedly over time and, whenever possible, these trends are presented.

Readers should be aware that many factors, including slight differences in the wording of survey questions, may have significant effects on responses. In addition, the margin of error for survey results, presented in Appendix 5, may vary slightly between surveys. Thus, attention to the exact wording of questions and the appropriate estimate of error always should accompany comparisons.

Table 2.1

Attitudes toward the most important problem facing the country

United States, 1982-2002

Question: "What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?"

	Oct. 15-18, 1982	Oct. 7-10, 1983	Feb. 10-13, 1984	Jan. 25-28, 1985	July 11-14, 1986	Apr. 10-13, 1987	Sept. 9-11, 1988	May 4-7, 1989	July 19-22, 1990	Mar. 7-10, 1991	Mar. 26-29, 1992	Jan. 8-11, 1993	Jan. 15-17, 1994	Jan. 16-18, 1995	May 9-12, 1996	Jan. 10-13, 1997	Apr. 17-19, 1998	May 23-24, 1999	Mar. 10-12, 2000	Jan. 10-14, 2001	Mar. 4-7, 2002
High cost of living; inflation; taxes	18%	12%	10%	11%	4%	5%	2%	3%	2%	2%	8%	4%	4%	7%	11%	6%	7%	3%	13%	6%	2%
Unemployment	61	41	29	20	23	13	9	6	3	8	25	22	18	15	13	NA	5	4	2	4	8
International problems; foreign affairs	2	7	11	NA	NA	NA	4	4	NA	1	3	8	3	2	4	3	4	3	4	4	2
Crime; violence	3	5	4	4	3	3	2	6	1	2	5	9	37	27	25	23	20	17	13	9	1
Guns/gun control	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(a)	NA	NA	1	10	7	1	NA
Fear of war/nuclear war; international tensions	3	14	11	27	22	23	5	2	1	2	NA	NA	NA	(a)	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	(a)	12
Ethics, moral, family decline	3	5	7	2	3	5	1	5	2	2	5	7	8	6	14	9	16	18	15	13	7
Terrorism	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	22
Excessive government spending; Federal budget deficit	4	4	12	18	13	11	12	7	21	8	8	13	5	14	15	8	5	1	4	1	1
Dissatisfaction with government	3	2	2	NA	NA	5	NA	2	1	NA	8	5	6	5	12	7	8	5	11	9	4
Economy (general)	11	4	5	6	7	10	12	8	7	24	42	35	14	10	12	21	6	3	6	7	18
Poverty; hunger; homelessness	NA	NA	NA	6	6	5	7	10	7	10	15	15	11	10	7	10	10	7	5	4	4
Drugs; drug abuse	NA	NA	NA	2	8	11	11	27	18	11	8	6	9	6	10	17	12	5	5	7	3
National security	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6
Trade deficit; trade relations	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	3	1	1	4	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	(a)	NA
Education; quality of education	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	3	2	2	8	8	7	5	13	10	13	11	16	12	7
Environment; pollution	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	5	2	3	3	1	1	3	1	2	2	2	2	2
AIDS	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	2	(a)	3	2	2	1	(a)	1	1	(a)	(a)	(a)	NA
Abortion	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(a)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	0	1	1	(a)	2	1	(a)
Health care	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	12	18	20	12	10	7	6	5	8	7	6
No opinion; don't know	2	4	4	3	3	4	12	7	5	6	2	2	2	2	7	6	4	2	6	8	4

Note: Exact wording of response categories varies across surveys. Multiple responses are possible; the Source records up to three problems per respondent. Some problems mentioned by a small percentage of respondents are not included in the table. Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,006 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Mar. 4-7, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aLess than 0.5%.

Source: George H. Gallup, *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 198, p. 27; Report No. 226, p. 17; Report No. 235, pp. 20, 21; Report No. 252, pp. 28, 29; Report No. 260, pp. 6, 7; Report No. 277, pp. 6, 7; Report No. 285, pp. 4, 5; Report No. 290, p. 6 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll*, Mar. 14, 1991, pp. 2, 3; Apr. 3, 1992, pp. 1, 2; Jan. 30, 1997, p. 2 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 298, p. 14; No. 340, p. 43; No. 352, p. 7; No. 396, p. 34 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr990528.asp> [July 20, 1999]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000331.asp> [Mar. 31, 2000]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010205.asp> [Feb. 5, 2001]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr020320.asp> [Mar. 27, 2002]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.2

Attitudes toward important issues for the government to address

United States, 1993-2002

Question: "What do you think are the two most important issues for the government to address?"

Issue	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Terrorism ^a	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23%
The economy (non-specific)	26%	12%	7%	14%	8%	9%	7%	5%	12%	15
Education	10	6	10	14	15	14	21	25	30	12
Health care (not Medicare)	31	45	25	16	10	11	12	15	10	8
Taxes	7	6	12	11	14	16	12	13	23	8
Social Security ^b	X	X	X	X	6	6	24	16	12	5
Crime/violence	3	36	21	16	19	13	8	10	5	5
National security ^a	X	X	X	X	X	X	2	2	2	4
Homeland/domestic security/public safety ^a	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	4
Employment/jobs	19	14	10	9	5	3	4	4	2	4
Foreign policy (non-specific)	6	4	2	3	3	5	4	3	4	4
Domestic/social issues (non-specific)	10	4	4	4	2	3	2	2	2	3
Medicare ^b	X	X	X	3	4	5	5	6	4	3
Environment	3	1	1	1	3	2	3	3	3	3
Peace/world peace/nuclear arms	2	1	1	3	1	3	3	1	1	3
Federal surplus/deficit/budget	19	8	22	22	20	12	5	4	4	2
Defense/military	X	2	1	1	2	2	2	4	5	2
Homelessness ^c	X	X	X	3	4	4	3	3	3	2
Drugs	3	6	3	4	8	6	2	5	4	2
(Programs for) the poor/poverty	7	8	10	2	3	2	2	3	1	2
Welfare	2	7	16	13	14	8	4	2	1	2
Programs for the elderly (not Medicare/Social Security)	3	2	5	6	1	1	1	2	1	2
Abortion	9	3	3	4	2	2	2	6	4	1
Immigration	(d)	(d)	2	2	2	1	(d)	1	1	1
Family values (decline of)	(d)	(d)	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1
Human/civil/women's rights	X	1	1	2	2	1	(d)	1	1	1
Gun control	(d)	3	2	1	1	1	1	4	1	1

Note: The issues mentioned are spontaneous, unprompted replies by the respondents. The numbers indicate the percent of respondents who mentioned the item as one of the top two issues for the government to address. Some issues mentioned by a relatively small percentage of respondents have been omitted. Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,021 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 9-15, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aPreviously coded as "other."

^bPreviously coded under "programs for the elderly."

^cPreviously coded under "programs for the poor."

^dLess than 0.5%.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Apr. 24, 2002), p. 8. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.3

Respondents' attitudes toward the most important problem facing their local community

United States, 1994 and 2001

Question: "What do you think is the most important problem facing your local community today?"

Problem	1994	2001
Education	11%	14%
Crime/gangs/justice system/violence	29	12
Drugs/alcohol	9	11
Unemployment/lack of jobs	12	9
Development/growth/overcrowding/traffic	4	7
Roads/sewers/infrastructure/transportation	5	6
Taxes	8	6
Dissatisfaction with government/politics	2	4
Power crisis/costs of gas/power	NA	4
Problems with children/delinquency	4	4
Inflation/differences between wages and costs	1	2
Morality/ethics/family values	2	2
Environment/pollution	3	1
Health care (cost/accessibility)	2	1
Racism	1	1
Funding availability for local services	4	1
Poverty/homeless	2	1
Costs/fees for local services	(a)	(a)
Other	3	9
No problem	4	5
Don't know	11	10

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,513 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 14-19, 2001.

^aLess than 0.5%.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), p. 26. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.4

Respondents' perceptions of factors determining whether a teenager tries illegal drugs

United States, 2001

Question: "How big a factor do you think the following things are in determining whether a teenager tries illegal drugs or not? Would you say... is a major factor whether a teenager tries illegal drugs, a minor factor, or not a factor at all?"

	Major factor	Minor factor	Not a factor	Don't know/refused
Peer pressure	82%	14%	2%	2%
Lack of parental supervision	79	15	4	2
How easy or difficult it is for the teen to get access to drugs	74	17	5	4
The portrayal of drug use in movies, music, and TV	55	32	10	3
Whether the teen's parents drink or smoke	52	32	13	3
Living in poverty	45	33	18	4
A lack of information about the dangers of drugs	44	35	19	2
Whether the teenager is raised in the city, suburbs, or country	25	30	42	3

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), p. 32. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.5

Adults' attitudes concerning the primary responsibility for underage drinking

United States, 2001

Question: "Of the groups we just discussed, who would you say bears the most responsibility for underage drinking?"

Responsibility

Parents	50.4%
Peer culture	29.1
Establishments that sell alcohol	6.8
Inadequate law enforcement	2.9
Media	2.5
Alcohol industry	2.2
Political leaders	1.0

Note: These data are from the CASA National Underage Drinking Survey conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. The data were collected through telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 900 adults, 21 years of age and older. A random digit dialing design was used that included both listed and nonlisted numbers to avoid interview bias. Three variations of the survey instrument were used having the same theme, each given to one-third of the sample.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, "Teen Tipplers: America's Underage Drinking Epidemic" [Online], p. 25, Table 3.2. Available: http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/underage1.pdf [Apr. 8, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.6

Adults' perceptions of the main reason for underage drinking

United States, 2001

Question: "Which of the items that we just discussed do you think is the most important reason for why people under 21 drink alcohol?"

Reason

Peer group	69.3%
Parental influence	10.8
Depression or emotional problems	5.5
Restlessness	5.4
Relax or reduce inhibition	3.0
Media/entertainment industry	2.2
Alcohol use by adults	0.9
Alcohol advertising	0.9

Note: See Note, table 2.5.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, "Teen Tipplers: America's Underage Drinking Epidemic" [Online], p. 25, Table 3.3. Available: http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/underage1.pdf [Apr. 8, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.7

Adults' main concerns about the consequences of underage drinking

United States, 2001

Question: "Which of the possible consequences of underage drinking we just discussed are of most concern to you?"

Consequence

Physical health	16.8%
Delinquency or criminal behavior	13.4
Risk for developing alcoholism or dependence	13.4
Gateway to illicit drug use	12.1
Risk of sexual behavior	11.9
Financial cost to society	9.9
Emotional or social consequences	9.4
Academic or work problems	5.3

Note: See Note, table 2.5.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, "Teen Tipplers: America's Underage Drinking Epidemic" [Online], p. 24. Available: http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/underage1.pdf [Apr. 8, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.8

Adults' perception of barriers to reducing underage drinking

United States, 2001

Question: "Which of the items that we discussed do you think are most responsible for preventing us from effectively reducing underage drinking?"

Barrier

Lack of or limited parental involvement in teens' lives	52.2%
Ineffective enforcement of current laws or regulations	18.6
Lack of effective prevention programs	6.8
Media	6.8
Insufficient laws or regulations	6.0
Alcohol advertising	3.5
Lack of effective treatment programs	3.0

Note: See Note, table 2.5.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, "Teen Tipplers: America's Underage Drinking Epidemic" [Online], p. 26. Available: http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/underage1.pdf [Apr. 8, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.9

Attitudes toward the biggest problems facing public schools

By school status, United States, 1988-2001

Question: "What do you think are the biggest problems with which the public schools of your community must deal?"

	Lack of financial support/ funding/money ^a	Lack of discipline/ more control ^b	Fighting/ violence/ gangs	Overcrowded schools/ large schools	Use of drugs/dope	Difficulty getting good teachers/ quality teachers
<u>National</u>						
1988	12%	19%	1%	6%	32%	11%
1989	13	19	NA	8	34	7
1990	13	19	2	7	38	7
1991	18	20	3	9	22	11
1992	22	17	9	9	22	5
1993	21	15	13	8	16	5
1994	13	18	18	7	11	3
1995	11	15	9	3	7	2
1996	13	15	14	8	16	3
1997	15	15	12	8	14	3
1998	12	14	15	8	10	5
1999	9	18	11	8	8	4
2000	18	15	11	12	9	4
2001	15	15	10	10	9	6
<u>Respondents with no children in school</u>						
1988	10	20	2	4	34	10
1989	11	20	NA	6	35	8
1990	18	19	2	6	40	6
1991	15	20	4	8	24	11
1992	20	18	9	6	26	4
1993	19	15	12	6	17	4
1994	12	18	19	5	11	4
1995	10	17	9	3	7	2
1996	14	16	14	6	17	3
1997	15	15	12	6	14	3
1998	13	15	14	5	10	6
1999	9	18	10	6	9	4
2000	17	17	11	10	10	4
2001	15	17	11	7	9	6
<u>Respondents with children in public schools</u>						
1988	17	15	1	10	30	11
1989	18	16	NA	11	30	6
1990	17	17	2	10	34	10
1991	26	18	4	11	17	11
1992	25	15	9	13	17	7
1993	24	15	14	11	14	7
1994	16	17	16	11	13	2
1995	12	11	8	5	7	3
1996	13	12	15	11	14	3
1997	14	12	12	10	14	4
1998	11	9	20	11	12	4
1999	9	15	12	12	6	5
2000	19	9	11	14	9	4
2001	17	10	9	15	10	6

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,108 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 23 to June 6, 2001. Some problems mentioned by a small percentage of respondents have been omitted. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aThe response "funding/money" was added in 1998.

^bThe response "more control" was added in 1997.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 276, p. 41; Report No. 288, p. 41 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); Stanley M. Elam, "The 22nd Annual Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1990), pp. 53, 54; Stanley M. Elam, Lowell C. Rose, and Alec M. Gallup, "The 24th Annual Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1992), p. 43; "The 26th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1994), p. 43; "The 28th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1996), p. 49; Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 30th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappa* [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kp9809-3.htm> [Jan. 5, 1999]; and Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2000), p. 46; "The 33rd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2001), pp. 46, 47. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.10

Students age 12 to 18 reporting fear of school-related victimization

By student characteristics, United States, 1995 and 1999

Student characteristics	Fear of harm or attack ^a				Avoidance of one or more places at school ^b	
	At school		Going to or from school			
	1995	1999	1995	1999	1995	1999
Total	8.6%	5.3%	6.5%	3.9%	8.7%	4.6%
Sex						
Male	8.3	4.9	5.3	3.4	8.8	4.6
Female	8.9	5.7	7.9	4.5	8.5	4.6
Race, ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	6.3	3.9	3.8	2.1	7.1	3.8
Black, non-Hispanic	13.4	9.0	13.1	8.2	12.1	6.7
Hispanic	15.5	8.1	13.4	7.6	12.9	6.2
Other, non-Hispanic	9.4	4.2	8.2	3.8	11.1	5.4
Grade						
6th	11.8	9.3	7.2	4.7	11.6	5.9
7th	11.0	7.5	8.9	4.7	11.8	6.1
8th	9.2	6.0	6.9	3.8	8.8	5.5
9th	9.1	5.2	6.2	3.6	9.5	5.3
10th	7.5	4.5	6.3	4.4	7.8	4.7
11th	5.8	3.3	5.5	3.0	6.9	2.5
12th	5.9	2.5	4.2	3.2	4.1	2.4
Community						
Urban	12.3	7.3	11.7	7.5	11.7	5.8
Suburban	7.4	4.9	5.1	2.9	7.9	4.7
Rural	7.0	3.8	4.0	1.8	7.0	3.0
Type of school						
Public	9.1	5.7	6.7	4.0	9.3	5.0
Private	3.3	1.7	5.0	2.8	2.2	1.6

Note: These data are from the School Crime Supplement (SCS) to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The NCVS is a continuous survey of a representative sample of households in the United States conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. The SCS is an additional questionnaire fielded with the 1995 and 1999 NCVS and was administered to a nationally representative sample of students 12 to 18 years of age. Eligible respondents were asked the supplemental SCS questions only after completing the NCVS interview. Persons eligible for the SCS were those NCVS respondents who were enrolled in grades 6 through 12 at a school leading to a high school diploma and had attended school at any time during the 6 months preceding the interview. A total of 9,728 students participated in the 1995 SCS and 8,398 students participated in the 1999 SCS.

^aIncludes students who reported that they sometimes or most of the time feared being victimized in this way.

^bIncludes the entrance into the school, any hallways or stairs in the school, parts of the school cafeteria, any school restrooms, and other places inside the school building.

Source: Phillip Kaufman et al., *Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2001*, NCES 2002-113/NCJ 190075 (Washington, DC: U.S. Departments of Education and Justice, 2001), pp. 77, 78. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.11

Attitudes toward holding parents legally responsible for crimes their children commit with the parents' gun

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Would you generally favor or oppose a law that would hold parents legally responsible if their children commit crimes with the parents' guns?"

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/ refused
National	69%	24%	7%
Sex			
Male	68	26	6
Female	69	23	8
Race			
White	70	23	7
Nonwhite	63	33	4
Black	61	33	6
Age			
18 to 29 years	64	30	6
30 to 49 years	70	24	6
50 to 64 years	72	22	6
50 years and older	71	21	8
65 years and older	70	20	10
Education			
College post graduate	73	23	4
College graduate	76	17	7
Some college	68	23	9
High school graduate or less	66	28	6
Income			
\$75,000 and over	71	25	4
\$50,000 and over ^a	74	22	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	70	21	9
\$20,000 to \$29,999	63	29	8
Under \$20,000	69	28	3
Community			
Urban area	67	28	5
Suburban area	70	24	6
Rural area	69	21	10
Region			
East	72	21	7
Midwest	70	19	11
South	69	26	5
West	64	31	5
Politics			
Republican	74	20	6
Democrat	67	27	6
Independent	66	26	8

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,007 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 7-9, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aIncludes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.12

Reported confidence in selected institutions

United States, 1977-2002

Question: "As far as people in charge of running . . . are concerned, would you say you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?"

(Percent reporting "a great deal of confidence")

	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
The military	27%	29%	29%	28%	28%	31%	35%	45%	32%	36%	35%	33%	32%	43%	47%	50%	57%	39%	43%	47%	37%	44%	54%	48%	44%	71%
Medicine	43	42	30	34	37	32	35	43	39	33	36	40	30	35	NA	29	22	23	26	29	29	38	39	44	32	29
The White House	31	14	15	18	28	20	23	42	30	19	23	17	20	21	21	16	23	18	13	15	15	20	22	21	21	50
Major educational institutions such as colleges and universities	37	41	33	36	34	30	36	40	35	34	36	34	32	35	21	25	23	25	27	30	27	37	37	36	35	33
The U.S. Supreme Court	29	29	28	27	29	25	33	35	28	32	30	32	28	32	23	30	26	31	32	31	28	37	42	34	35	41
Congress	17	10	18	18	16	13	20	28	16	21	20	15	16	12	9	10	12	8	10	10	11	12	12	15	18	22
Television news	28	35	37	29	24	24	24	28	23	27	29	28	25	27	20	22	23	20	16	21	18	26	23	20	24	24
Organized religion	29	24	20	22	22	20	22	24	21	22	16	17	16	20	NA	NA	NA	NA	24	NA	20	25	27	26	25	23
Major companies	20	22	18	16	16	18	18	19	17	16	21	19	16	14	15	11	16	19	21	21	18	21	23	28	20	16
The press	18	23	28	19	16	14	19	18	16	19	19	18	18	18	14	13	15	13	11	14	11	14	15	13	13	16
Law firms	14	18	16	13	NA	NA	12	17	12	14	15	13	NA	NA	NA	11	11	8	9	11	7	11	10	12	10	13
Organized labor	14	15	10	14	12	8	10	12	13	11	11	13	10	14	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	NA	9	13	15	15	15	11
Executive branch of the Federal Government	23	14	17	17	24	NA	NA	NA	19	18	19	16	17	14	NA	13	15	12	9	12	12	17	17	18	20	33
Wall Street	NA	NA	NA	12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	9	9	12	13	15	13	17	17	18	30	30	23	19

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Jan. 16-21, 2002. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll*, Feb. 7, 2001, pp. 4-6; Jan. 30, 2002, pp. 3, 4 (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc.). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.13

Reported confidence in selected institutions

United States, selected years 1977-2002

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?"

(Percent saying "a great deal" or "quite a lot")

	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Banks and banking	NA	60%	46%	51%	51%	49%	51%	49%	42%	36%	30%	37%	35%	43%	44%	41%	40%	43%	46%	44%	47%
Big business	33%	32	20	28	31	28	NA	25	NA	25	22	22	26	21	24	28	30	30	29	28	20
Church or organized religion	64	65	64	62	66	57	61	59	52	56	56	53	54	57	57	56	59	58	56	60	45
Congress	40	34	29	28	39	41	NA	35	32	24	18	18	18	21	20	22	28	26	24	26	29
Criminal justice system	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17	15	20	19	19	24	23	24	NA	27
Medical system	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	34	36	41	42	38	40	40	40	40	38
Military	57	54	50	53	61	63	61	68	63	68	69	68	64	64	66	60	64	68	64	66	79
Newspapers	NA	51	35	38	35	37	31	36	NA	39	32	31	29	30	32	35	33	33	37	36	35
Organized labor	39	36	28	26	28	29	26	26	NA	27	22	26	26	26	25	23	26	28	25	26	26
Police	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52	54	58	60	59	58	57	54	57	59
Presidency	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	43	38	45	39	49	53	49	42	48	58
Public schools	54	53	42	39	48	49	50	49	43	45	35	39	34	40	38	40	37	36	37	38	38
Television news	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	46	35	33	36	34	34	34	36	34	35
U.S. Supreme Court	46	45	46	42	56	54	52	56	46	47	39	44	42	44	45	50	50	49	47	50	50

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,020 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted June 21-23, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010625.asp> [June 25, 2001]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr020628.asp> [July 3, 2002]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.14

Reported confidence in the criminal justice system

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little: the criminal justice system?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None ^a
National	27%	46%	24%	2%
Sex				
Male	32	42	23	2
Female	22	49	26	2
Race				
White	27	47	23	2
Nonwhite	25	41	30	2
Black	22	41	35	2
Age				
18 to 29 years	44	39	16	1
30 to 49 years	23	46	30	1
50 to 64 years	22	51	22	5
50 years and older	23	50	22	4
65 years and older	26	48	21	2
Education				
College post graduate	28	53	16	2
College graduate	38	42	20	0
Some college	28	45	26	1
High school graduate or less	22	46	27	4
Income				
\$75,000 and over	32	46	19	2
\$50,000 to \$74,999	29	50	20	1
\$30,000 to \$49,999	28	42	29	1
\$20,000 to \$29,999	18	47	30	5
Under \$20,000	26	48	23	3
Community				
Urban area	20	48	29	1
Suburban area	31	46	20	2
Rural area	27	44	27	2
Region				
East	27	53	18	1
Midwest	29	42	28	1
South	23	46	27	3
West	31	42	24	2
Politics				
Republican	33	44	21	2
Democrat	24	48	25	2
Independent	25	46	26	2

Note: See Note, table 2.13. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.15

Attitudes toward the effectiveness of the criminal justice systemUnited States, 2000^a

Question: "From what you have read or heard, or any personal experiences, how effective do you think the overall American criminal justice system is in each of the following areas: . . .?"

	Very effective	Some- what effective	Not very effective	Not effective at all	Don't know
Investigating and arresting persons suspected of committing crimes	18%	61%	14%	4%	3%
Prosecuting accused persons	15	58	19	5	4
Reaching just outcomes at criminal trials	13	55	22	5	5

Note: These data are from a survey commissioned by SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics as part of a project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. The data were collected by Opinion Research Corporation International. The telephone survey was conducted in February and March 2000 using a national probability sample of 1,030 adults, 18 years of age and older, living in households in the continental United States. The data are weighted according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates for age, race, sex, and geographic distributions of the national population.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information*, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 25. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.16

Reported confidence in the police

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little: the police?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None ^a
National	59%	31%	9%	1%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	61	29	9	1
Female	57	33	9	1
<u>Race</u>				
White	63	30	6	1
Nonwhite	43	34	20	3
Black	31	39	28	2
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	56	30	12	2
30 to 49 years	55	35	9	1
50 to 64 years	60	29	9	2
50 years and older	64	28	7	1
65 years and older	69	27	4	(b)
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	62	33	5	(b)
College graduate	69	26	5	(b)
Some college	56	33	10	1
High school graduate or less	56	31	11	2
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	68	21	10	1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	65	30	4	1
\$30,000 to \$49,999	58	33	7	2
\$20,000 to \$29,999	51	35	13	1
Under \$20,000	49	38	11	2
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	53	35	10	2
Suburban area	60	31	8	1
Rural area	60	29	10	1
<u>Region</u>				
East	63	25	11	1
Midwest	56	34	8	2
South	53	36	11	(b)
West	64	29	5	2
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	73	23	3	1
Democrat	51	36	12	1
Independent	52	34	12	2

Note: See Note, table 2.13. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

^bLess than 0.5%.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.17

Reported confidence in the police to protect from violent crime

United States, selected years 1981-2001

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the ability of the police to protect you from violent crime--A great deal, quite a lot, not very much, or none at all?"

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Not very much	None at all	No opinion
1981	15%	34%	42%	8%	1%
1985	15	37	39	6	3
1989	14	34	42	8	2
1990	17	35	46	(a)	2
1993	14	31	45	9	1
1995	20	30	39	9	2
1998	19	36	37	8	(a)
1999	29	41	25	4	1
2000	20	42	31	6	1
2001	25	41	27	6	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 11-14, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aLess than 0.5%.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 397, p. 50; No. 420, p. 55 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); and The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr011022.asp> [Oct. 24, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.18

Reported confidence in the U.S. Supreme Court

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little: the U.S. Supreme Court?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None ^a
National	50%	35%	13%	(b)
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	53	32	14	(b)
Female	47	38	12	(b)
<u>Race</u>				
White	51	35	11	1%
Nonwhite	44	35	19	(b)
Black	39	34	25	0
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	58	27	15	0
30 to 49 years	50	37	11	(b)
50 to 64 years	48	38	13	1
50 years and older	45	38	14	(b)
65 years and older	41	38	15	0
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	57	30	12	0
College graduate	63	28	8	0
Some college	54	32	12	1
High school graduate or less	39	42	15	1
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	62	27	10	1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	53	33	12	0
\$30,000 to \$49,999	49	35	14	(b)
\$20,000 to \$29,999	31	48	18	1
Under \$20,000	47	38	13	1
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	50	37	11	(b)
Suburban area	54	30	13	1
Rural area	42	42	14	(b)
<u>Region</u>				
East	50	37	11	1
Midwest	42	42	13	1
South	52	30	15	(b)
West	55	34	11	0
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	53	34	11	1
Democrat	46	38	13	1
Independent	50	32	14	1

Note: See Note, table 2.13. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

^bLess than 0.5%.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.19

Reported confidence in the U.S. Supreme Court

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1983-2000

Question: "I'm going to name some institutions in this country. As far as the people running these institutions (U.S. Supreme Court) are concerned, would you say you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?"

	1983			1984			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any
National	27%	55%	14%	33%	51%	12%	30%	52%	14%	36%	50%	10%	35%	50%	11%	34%	50%	11%
Sex																		
Male	31	50	16	40	44	15	36	47	15	41	46	11	39	47	10	38	47	12
Female	24	58	12	29	56	11	25	56	14	33	52	10	31	53	11	32	52	10
Race																		
White	27	55	14	35	50	13	31	53	13	38	47	11	36	49	11	36	49	11
Black/other	26	53	15	25	54	11	24	49	19	26	61	7	26	56	10	26	55	12
Age																		
18 to 20 years	38	49	11	29	52	19	47	42	10	62	24	10	57	37	7	44	47	3
21 to 29 years	33	55	10	45	42	11	38	48	10	41	51	6	43	45	8	40	50	8
30 to 49 years	24	60	15	30	56	12	30	55	14	36	52	9	34	55	8	34	54	9
50 years and older	26	51	16	30	51	13	24	52	17	32	48	13	30	50	14	31	46	15
Education^a																		
College	34	53	12	40	50	8	37	52	9	44	49	6	40	51	8	42	50	7
High school graduate	24	58	15	30	52	15	26	56	15	32	51	12	32	51	13	29	52	14
Less than high school graduate	19	47	19	25	46	17	21	39	27	24	47	18	27	46	12	26	41	13
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	34	52	11	40	49	9	36	52	11	47	45	7	38	52	9	43	51	5
Clerical/support	26	57	14	24	62	12	25	57	14	33	58	7	32	54	10	33	50	12
Manual/service	22	57	17	33	48	14	27	51	17	29	52	13	32	50	12	27	52	14
Farming/agriculture	41	36	10	45	40	15	36	39	15	35	40	22	33	33	33	31	19	31
Region																		
Northeast	30	54	12	32	51	13	32	52	13	43	48	7	35	53	9	37	45	9
Midwest	30	54	12	30	55	12	30	54	13	32	52	12	33	51	11	33	55	9
South	26	53	17	32	49	14	28	50	16	33	50	12	37	44	12	32	48	16
West	22	60	15	41	48	9	30	54	14	41	48	8	32	58	8	38	52	6
Religion																		
Protestant	27	54	16	33	52	11	28	52	15	35	50	11	35	48	12	30	54	12
Catholic	26	58	12	32	52	13	32	54	11	39	48	9	34	55	9	47	40	6
Jewish	43	45	10	45	45	10	37	55	8	55	35	5	39	61	0	35	41	18
None	30	51	14	36	43	17	33	47	19	33	53	10	38	52	7	28	54	12
Politics																		
Republican	30	53	16	42	47	10	33	51	14	42	48	6	42	49	7	40	52	6
Democrat	27	54	15	34	51	12	29	53	14	34	50	12	33	52	12	32	51	13
Independent	26	57	12	27	54	14	28	52	15	35	50	12	30	50	12	33	46	13

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 2,817 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted February to April, 2000. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any
35%	48%	13%	38%	48%	13%	31%	52%	13%	30%	50%	16%	28%	50%	17%	31%	50%	14%	32%	49%	13%
36	48	13	44	42	14	34	51	12	34	48	16	33	45	18	34	47	15	36	46	14
34	48	12	33	52	12	28	52	14	27	52	17	24	54	16	28	52	13	29	52	12
37	47	12	38	47	12	32	51	12	30	50	17	30	49	16	33	50	13	32	50	12
27	53	14	34	48	14	20	55	20	29	50	15	23	53	18	24	50	18	30	46	14
39	48	4	32	42	21	38	52	7	32	47	21	38	40	15	52	33	7	46	38	9
38	47	10	50	41	7	32	55	13	37	51	11	30	46	19	35	47	15	43	42	10
36	47	14	36	51	12	32	52	14	30	52	16	26	55	15	29	54	14	31	52	12
32	50	12	33	48	15	28	50	14	27	48	19	29	46	17	30	48	14	27	50	15
44	47	9	45	45	9	36	51	11	36	49	13	33	52	13	36	51	11	38	49	9
29	48	17	32	49	16	24	54	17	26	52	20	24	51	20	26	55	15	25	53	16
21	51	13	23	57	13	27	46	13	19	42	20	22	41	22	26	38	21	23	44	19
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	52	10	38	48	14	34	51	12	34	54	11	37	53	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	28	58	12	31	54	13	27	54	16	31	50	15	30	54	13
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	33	46	17	30	53	15	31	49	16	28	52	14	28	51	13
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	26	51	16	26	46	22	24	49	21	32	45	15	30	44	17
42	48	10	42	47	10	36	52	9	37	48	14	34	50	12	36	53	9	38	50	9
35	48	10	45	45	10	25	57	14	28	54	16	29	52	17	25	56	15	28	53	12
28	49	17	32	50	15	29	49	17	26	52	17	24	49	20	30	45	18	27	47	18
35	53	12	30	60	5	26	58	5	35	38	25	13	42	29	32	42	19	23	60	11
39	43	13	44	39	14	32	50	12	35	47	14	31	49	13	31	54	11	34	47	12
37	48	10	34	51	13	33	52	11	29	50	18	29	51	17	30	49	15	30	51	14
29	53	13	37	48	13	25	55	16	27	51	18	26	49	18	30	47	17	31	50	13
39	44	15	38	51	9	34	48	13	32	51	15	29	51	17	33	53	11	33	50	12
33	50	13	35	48	15	29	52	14	28	51	17	25	51	18	29	51	15	30	50	14
40	42	12	45	44	9	36	50	12	32	51	14	33	48	15	35	48	12	33	49	11
67	33	0	48	43	10	30	50	15	42	46	12	48	44	4	41	47	9	43	45	12
34	44	16	24	64	11	29	56	13	33	47	18	30	45	19	29	51	14	33	49	14
41	48	9	46	43	11	33	54	11	32	49	16	32	51	15	33	50	15	31	51	13
31	48	16	34	50	13	27	52	16	32	48	16	30	51	13	31	50	13	33	50	10
33	48	13	34	50	14	32	50	13	27	53	17	24	49	21	30	50	15	32	49	14

Table 2.20

Respondents' ratings of several aspects of the prison system in the United States

United States, 2000

Question: "Next, we'd like to ask you about several aspects of the prison system in the United States. For each one, please say whether you think prisons are doing an excellent, good, only fair or poor job. How about. . .?"

	Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	No opinion
Maintaining high security to keep prisoners from escaping	18%	49%	23%	8%	2%
Rehabilitating inmates so they are less likely to commit crimes in the future	2	12	34	48	4
Maintaining a safe environment for inmates in prison	5	25	37	26	7

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Aug. 29-Sept. 5, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 56. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.21

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of various occupations

By type of occupation, United States, 2001

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: . . .?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low	No opinion
Firefighters	40%	50%	10%	(a)	(a)	(a)
Members of the U.S. military	38	43	17	1%	(a)	1%
Nurses	27	57	14	1	(a)	1
Clergy	23	41	27	4	1%	4
Police	23	45	26	5	1	(a)
Medical doctors	17	49	29	4	1	(a)
Druggists, pharmacists	15	53	29	2	(a)	1
College teachers	14	44	33	4	1	4
Engineers	12	48	34	1	1	4
Dentists	11	45	38	4	1	1
Journalists	5	24	50	14	5	2
Stockbrokers	5	14	58	14	2	7
Accountants	5	36	53	3	(a)	3
Bankers	4	30	55	8	1	2
Lawyers	4	14	50	23	8	1
Congress members	4	21	52	17	5	1
Labor union leaders	4	13	47	23	7	6
Auto mechanics	4	18	53	19	5	1
Senators	4	21	53	16	4	2
Business executives	3	22	57	12	3	3
Insurance salespeople	3	10	56	25	5	1
Advertising practitioners	2	9	56	23	4	6
Car salespeople	2	6	38	39	13	2

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,005 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Nov. 26-27, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aLess than 0.5%.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/hnsty_ethcs.asp [Jan. 4, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.22

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers

United States, selected years 1976-2001

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Lawyers?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low	No opinion
1976	6%	19%	48%	18%	8%	1%
1977	5	21	44	18	8	4
1981	4	21	41	19	8	7
1983	5	19	43	20	9	6
1985	6	21	40	21	9	3
1988	3	15	45	22	10	4
1990	4	18	43	23	9	4
1991	4	18	43	24	10	5
1992	3	15	43	25	11	3
1993	3	13	41	26	13	2
1994	3	14	36	27	15	1
1995	4	12	36	28	17	2
1996	3	14	39	29	14	3
1997	3	12	41	30	10	3
1999	1	12	45	28	13	1
2000	3	14	42	29	11	1
2001	4	14	50	23	8	1

Note: See Note, table 2.21. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 279 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1988), p. 18; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 293 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, February 1990), p. 23; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, May 22, 1991), p. 3; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 322, p. 2; No. 334, p. 38 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); *The Gallup Poll*, Nov. 10, 1995, p. 2; Jan. 2, 1997, p. 2 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 387 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1997), p. 23; The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr991116.asp> [Mar. 22, 2000]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001127.asp> [Apr. 18, 2001]; http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/hnsty_ethcs.asp [Jan. 4, 2002]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.23

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Lawyers?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
National	4%	14%	50%	23%	8%
Sex					
Male	2	10	52	24	11
Female	5	17	48	23	5
Race					
White	3	12	51	25	8
Nonwhite	10	24	45	16	4
Black	12	28	41	15	3
Age					
18 to 29 years	6	15	48	26	5
30 to 49 years	2	10	54	25	9
50 to 64 years	3	18	47	23	9
50 years and older	4	18	46	21	9
65 years and older	6	18	45	19	8
Education					
College post graduate	2	12	50	29	6
College graduate	3	10	47	25	15
Some college	2	13	52	25	7
High school graduate or less	6	16	49	21	7
Income					
\$75,000 and over	3	14	49	27	7
\$50,000 and over ^a	2	12	51	26	9
\$30,000 to \$49,999	3	11	50	28	8
\$20,000 to \$29,999	2	14	54	22	7
Under \$20,000	8	23	44	16	6
Community					
Urban area	4	14	47	28	6
Suburban area	4	13	51	22	9
Rural area	3	16	50	23	7
Region					
East	3	17	52	18	9
Midwest	5	9	50	25	9
South	4	16	50	23	6
West	3	12	47	30	8
Politics					
Republican	4	11	52	24	8
Democrat	4	18	50	24	3
Independent	3	13	47	23	12

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aIncludes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.24

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of police

United States, selected years 1977-2001

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Policemen?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
1977	8%	29%	50%	9%	3%
1981	8	36	41	9	4
1983	7	34	45	7	4
1985	10	37	41	7	3
1988	10	37	39	8	3
1990	9	40	41	7	2
1991	7	36	42	10	3
1992	8	34	42	10	4
1993	10	40	39	7	3
1994	9	37	41	9	3
1995	8	33	44	11	3
1996	10	39	38	8	3
1997	10	39	40	8	2
1999	9	43	38	8	2
2000	12	43	34	8	3
2001	23	45	26	5	1

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 279 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1988), p. 10; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 293 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, February 1990), p. 23; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, May 22, 1991), p. 3; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 322, p. 2; No. 334, p. 38 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); *The Gallup Poll*, Nov. 10, 1995, p. 2; Jan. 2, 1997, p. 2 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 387 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1997), p. 23; The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr991116.asp> [Mar. 22, 2000]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001127.asp> [Apr. 18, 2001]; http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/hnsty_ethcs.asp [Jan. 4, 2002]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.25

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of police

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Policemen?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
National	23%	45%	26%	5%	1%
Sex					
Male	23	44	25	7	1
Female	22	47	26	4	1
Race					
White	24	48	23	5	(a)
Nonwhite	18	31	40	8	2
Black	18	28	42	10	2
Age					
18 to 29 years	24	42	27	6	1
30 to 49 years	24	44	26	6	(a)
50 to 64 years	18	50	25	6	1
50 years and older	21	49	25	4	1
65 years and older	24	47	25	2	1
Education					
College post graduate	16	45	33	4	2
College graduate	22	47	28	3	0
Some college	25	45	25	4	(a)
High school graduate or less	23	45	23	8	1
Income					
\$75,000 and over	19	47	30	2	2
\$50,000 and over ^b	21	47	28	3	1
\$30,000 to \$49,999	22	44	27	6	0
\$20,000 to \$29,999	21	49	22	8	0
Under \$20,000	30	42	21	6	1
Community					
Urban area	20	45	27	8	(a)
Suburban area	21	46	28	4	1
Rural area	30	45	18	6	1
Region					
East	23	45	26	5	1
Midwest	19	47	30	4	(a)
South	27	45	22	6	(a)
West	21	46	25	7	1
Politics					
Republican	30	49	17	3	1
Democrat	23	40	29	7	1
Independent	16	45	32	7	(a)

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aLess than 0.5%.

^bIncludes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.26

Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of judges

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Judges?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
National	8%	39%	38%	11%	2%
Sex					
Male	10	39	37	12	2
Female	6	40	40	10	1
Race					
White	7	40	40	10	1
Nonwhite	11	34	34	15	3
Black	9	31	40	16	3
Age					
18 to 29 years	13	40	35	11	1
30 to 49 years	7	43	37	10	2
50 to 64 years	7	32	43	12	2
50 years and older	5	35	43	11	1
65 years and older	3	38	42	10	1
Education					
College post graduate	9	46	35	9	1
College graduate	7	51	30	9	2
Some college	8	41	39	10	1
High school graduate or less	8	32	42	12	2
Community					
Urban area	8	40	38	10	2
Suburban area	7	42	36	11	2
Rural area	10	32	45	11	0
Region					
East	9	44	34	10	1
Midwest	6	41	40	9	2
South	7	36	41	13	1
West	10	37	37	9	4
Politics					
Republican	7	42	37	11	2
Democrat	9	40	39	9	1
Independent	8	36	39	12	2

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,028 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Nov. 13-15, 2000. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.27

Respondents reporting amount of respect for police in their area

United States, selected years 1965-2000

Question: "How much respect do you have for the police in your area--a great deal, some, or hardly any?"

	A great deal	Some	Hardly any	No opinion
1965	70%	22%	4%	4%
1967	77	17	4	2
1991	60	32	7	1
1999	64	29	7	(a)
2000	60	30	9	1

Note: See [Note, table 2.20](#). For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aLess than 0.5%.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 55. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.28

Respondents' ratings of performance of police in own communityUnited States, 2000 and 2002^a

Question: "How would you rate the police in your community on the following--excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?"

	Excellent	Pretty good	Only fair	Poor	Not sure/refused
Responding quickly to calls for help and assistance					
2000	31%	38%	17%	8%	6%
2002	30	38	18	10	5
Not using excessive force					
2000	33	39	14	7	8
2002	29	38	17	7	9
Being helpful and friendly					
2000	37	37	16	8	2
2002	35	38	16	8	3
Treating people fairly					
2000	24	43	19	10	4
2002	26	40	20	10	4
Preventing crime					
2000	21	48	20	9	1
2002	20	45	21	10	3
Solving crime					
2000	16	47	23	7	6
2002	16	45	24	9	6

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,021 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 13-19, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll*, Mar. 1, 2000, p. 3; Mar. 20, 2002, p. 3 (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc.). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Page 116 intentionally blank.

Table 2.29

Attitudes toward fair treatment of persons of different races by police in own community

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "Do you think the police in your community treat all races fairly or do they tend to treat one or more of these groups unfairly?"

	Treat all races fairly	Treat one or more groups unfairly	Not sure
National	57%	33%	9%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	60	30	8
Female	54	36	10
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	61	27	10
Black	43	56	1
Hispanic	41	56	3
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 24 years	45	51	4
25 to 29 years	53	41	6
30 to 39 years	57	36	7
40 to 49 years	53	32	13
50 to 64 years	61	32	7
65 years and older	71	14	14
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	53	31	17
College graduate	51	40	9
Some college	59	31	9
High school graduate or less	58	33	8
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	60	31	9
\$50,000 to \$74,999	59	31	8
\$35,000 to \$49,999	60	27	12
\$25,000 to \$34,999	65	32	2
\$15,000 to \$24,999	57	31	12
Less than \$15,000	47	46	7
<u>Region</u>			
East	52	36	11
Midwest	65	28	7
South	55	36	8
West	56	32	11
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	70	22	8
Democrat	51	41	8
Independent	56	32	10

Note: See Note, table 2.28. The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.30

Respondents reporting fear that the police will stop and arrest them when innocent

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "Are you sometimes afraid that the police will stop and arrest you when you are completely innocent, or not?"

	Yes, some-times afraid	No, not afraid
National	21%	78%
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	24	75
Female	19	81
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>		
White	16	84
Black	42	56
Hispanic	39	61
<u>Age</u>		
18 to 24 years	36	64
25 to 29 years	18	82
30 to 39 years	20	78
40 to 49 years	20	79
50 to 64 years	22	77
65 years and older	9	90
<u>Education</u>		
College post graduate	14	86
College graduate	12	87
Some college	21	77
High school graduate or less	25	75
<u>Income</u>		
\$75,000 and over	16	84
\$50,000 to \$74,999	17	83
\$35,000 to \$49,999	15	82
\$25,000 to \$34,999	11	89
\$15,000 to \$24,999	25	75
Less than \$15,000	36	61
<u>Region</u>		
East	20	79
Midwest	15	85
South	26	73
West	21	78
<u>Politics</u>		
Republican	13	85
Democrat	26	73
Independent	20	79

Note: See Note, table 2.28. The "not sure" and "refused" categories have been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.31

Attitudes toward a police officer striking an adult male citizen

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Are there any situations you can imagine in which you would approve of a police-man striking an adult male citizen?"

	1973		1975		1976		1978		1980		1983		1984		1986		1987	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
National	73%	25%	73%	23%	76%	20%	76%	20%	73%	24%	78%	20%	69%	28%	72%	25%	73%	23%
Sex																		
Male	75	22	77	20	81	17	82	16	80	18	83	15	75	23	80	17	80	17
Female	71	28	70	26	72	22	72	23	68	29	73	23	65	32	66	31	67	27
Race																		
White	77	21	77	20	79	18	80	17	76	21	80	17	73	25	76	22	76	20
Black/other	42	54	46	47	48	44	48	45	45	49	59	37	50	46	49	46	56	35
Age																		
18 to 20 years	55	45	70	27	78	20	67	30	71	29	78	22	71	27	60	38	71	29
21 to 29 years	76	22	75	22	78	20	79	19	76	23	81	17	72	26	74	25	73	24
30 to 49 years	76	23	79	18	79	17	79	18	79	20	81	17	75	24	78	21	77	19
50 years and older	70	26	68	27	73	23	73	21	66	28	72	24	62	34	65	30	68	26
Education^a																		
College	84	14	86	13	85	13	85	12	82	17	87	11	79	20	85	14	83	14
High school graduate	72	27	71	26	76	20	76	21	73	24	75	23	67	31	67	31	70	26
Less than high school graduate	56	38	58	35	62	33	59	33	52	41	56	36	46	46	51	38	48	39
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	83	16	84	14	84	14	86	11	83	15	85	13	76	22	83	15	86	12
Clerical/support	80	18	77	20	78	18	79	19	78	21	83	16	74	26	70	28	66	29
Manual/service	66	32	66	30	73	24	72	25	67	29	71	26	64	32	66	30	65	29
Farming/agriculture	69	22	63	27	70	28	79	8	70	24	92	3	61	29	63	34	78	15
Region																		
Northeast	68	31	74	24	75	22	74	25	74	24	77	20	65	34	68	28	71	26
Midwest	72	25	77	21	78	18	80	18	70	26	76	22	70	26	72	26	72	24
South	73	25	71	24	74	20	74	21	71	26	77	20	67	30	70	26	71	23
West	79	19	70	26	78	20	80	16	79	18	84	14	76	23	78	21	79	17
Religion																		
Protestant	74	24	73	22	77	19	75	21	74	22	78	19	70	27	73	24	74	22
Catholic	70	27	71	27	74	23	76	21	70	28	75	22	66	32	68	30	68	27
Jewish	71	26	91	4	70	30	72	24	81	16	83	12	67	26	76	18	80	15
None	69	30	76	23	82	16	85	13	70	26	80	18	74	25	76	22	75	21
Politics																		
Republican	76	22	76	19	79	17	76	20	78	20	86	13	74	24	78	19	82	16
Democrat	67	31	67	29	72	24	73	23	67	29	72	26	62	35	68	30	66	29
Independent	79	19	78	19	79	17	80	18	75	22	79	17	73	25	73	24	74	21

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
73%	23%	70%	24%	70%	25%	66%	30%	73%	22%	71%	26%	67%	29%	66%	30%	64%	33%
77	20	77	18	77	19	71	27	81	16	80	18	75	21	74	23	74	24
69	25	66	28	64	30	62	33	68	27	64	32	60	35	59	36	56	40
77	19	74	21	73	22	70	26	77	19	76	22	71	25	71	26	70	27
51	41	51	40	52	41	44	51	51	40	48	46	47	45	47	47	39	56
74	26	69	31	59	36	53	42	69	28	56	38	50	46	52	43	62	38
70	26	73	21	74	24	68	30	80	19	70	27	68	28	66	30	63	36
79	18	74	20	74	23	72	27	75	22	76	22	70	26	68	28	67	30
68	26	65	28	63	28	58	34	68	24	66	30	63	31	63	31	61	33
78	19	78	17	78	19	73	24	79	18	79	19	74	23	71	27	72	26
73	23	66	30	64	30	64	32	70	26	66	32	62	33	68	28	59	37
50	36	53	34	48	33	36	54	55	33	52	40	52	39	47	44	48	46
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	83	16	81	18	76	22	73	25	76	22
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	23	80	18	71	27	72	24	68	29
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	77	20	69	28	68	28	66	31	66	32
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	65	29	60	35	57	37	55	39	50	46
79	19	80	14	80	18	75	23	79	17	80	18	75	21	71	26	73	25
77	19	70	26	73	24	66	30	74	22	67	30	60	36	67	28	60	37
69	26	64	30	64	29	60	35	72	24	68	29	66	30	62	33	58	38
62	25	75	12	50	38	55	35	47	47	70	20	58	37	68	29	69	29
68	29	62	30	68	24	63	34	71	25	65	32	57	38	57	37	57	38
70	24	79	19	69	26	66	30	67	27	71	26	69	27	68	29	65	32
75	19	71	20	67	27	65	31	77	18	71	26	66	29	67	28	64	32
77	20	66	29	76	20	70	26	76	20	78	20	76	21	68	29	69	27
74	21	73	22	70	25	67	28	74	21	70	27	69	26	66	30	65	31
66	29	66	28	67	27	62	34	67	27	71	25	62	35	62	34	59	36
91	4	75	19	71	29	68	32	79	21	76	22	61	37	69	31	67	33
78	20	68	25	74	19	65	34	78	21	77	22	70	26	70	24	71	27
75	21	76	18	76	19	72	25	78	17	77	20	78	18	73	23	74	24
69	26	69	26	64	30	58	37	65	29	66	30	60	36	60	36	56	40
75	20	66	26	70	25	68	28	76	20	71	26	66	30	64	30	64	32

Table 2.32

Attitudes toward a police officer striking a citizen under certain circumstances

United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Would you approve of a policeman striking a citizen who . . ."

	Was attacking the policeman with his fists?		Was attempting to escape from custody?		Had said vulgar and obscene things to the policeman?		Was being questioned in a murder case?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1973	97%	3%	87%	12%	22%	76%	8%	90%
1975	98	2	86	11	19	77	8	90
1976	94	5	78	18	20	77	8	90
1978	93	6	75	22	18	80	8	89
1980	94	4	76	20	14	84	8	90
1983	92	7	75	21	15	83	9	89
1984	92	6	73	23	12	86	9	89
1986	94	5	72	24	14	85	9	90
1987	92	7	77	18	11	86	10	87
1988	92	6	76	19	12	86	8	89
1989	94	5	76	20	11	87	8	90
1990	92	6	74	21	12	84	11	86
1991	90	8	69	26	9	89	6	92
1993	92	6	73	23	7	91	7	90
1994	93	6	75	21	9	90	7	92
1996	91	7	68	27	7	92	5	94
1998	90	8	68	27	7	92	6	93
2000	90	8	67	28	6	92	6	93

Note: See Note, table 2.19. In 1973 and 1975 these data were based on a subsample of respondents who answered "yes" or "don't know" to the question presented in table 2.31. Since 1976, all survey respondents were asked the above questions. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.33

Attitudes toward a police officer striking a citizen under certain circumstances

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Would you approve of a policeman striking a citizen who . . ."

	Was attacking the policeman with his fists?		Was attempting to escape from custody?		Had said vulgar and obscene things to the policeman?		Was being questioned in a murder case?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
National	90%	8%	67%	28%	6%	92%	6%	93%
Sex								
Male	94	4	74	23	7	91	5	94
Female	86	12	61	33	5	93	6	92
Race								
White	92	7	72	24	7	92	5	93
Black/other	82	14	46	48	3	95	8	91
Age								
18 to 20 years	80	17	62	35	2	98	4	96
21 to 29 years	88	11	63	35	3	96	3	97
30 to 49 years	91	8	66	30	4	94	5	94
50 years and older	90	7	71	24	10	87	8	89
Education								
College	92	6	71	25	5	94	4	95
High school graduate	88	11	66	30	8	91	7	91
Less than high school graduate	86	10	55	37	8	87	8	88
Income								
\$50,000 and over	95	4	75	22	6	93	6	94
\$30,000 to \$49,999	92	8	71	25	6	93	4	95
\$20,000 to \$29,999	89	9	68	27	3	97	6	92
Under \$20,000	84	13	58	37	8	89	8	89
Occupation								
Professional/business	92	6	71	24	5	94	5	94
Clerical/support	90	8	71	26	6	94	6	93
Manual/service	87	10	61	33	7	90	7	91
Farming/agriculture	86	11	71	23	17	83	6	94
Region								
Northeast	84	13	58	35	6	91	10	88
Midwest	91	8	71	22	7	92	6	92
South	92	7	68	29	5	94	4	95
West	91	7	68	28	8	91	4	95
Religion								
Protestant	91	7	71	24	8	91	6	93
Catholic	87	10	62	33	5	93	8	90
Jewish	90	10	61	32	2	95	7	93
None	92	7	64	30	3	96	2	97
Politics								
Republican	94	6	79	18	9	90	6	93
Democrat	87	10	57	37	5	93	6	92
Independent	90	8	66	28	5	93	5	94

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.34

Respondents' perceptions of police brutality in their area			
United States, selected years 1965-2000			
Question: "In some places in the nation there have been charges of police brutality. Do you think there is any police brutality in your area, or not?"			
	Yes	No	No opinion
1965	9%	79%	12%
1967	6	81	13
March 1991	35	60	5
July 1991	39	56	5
1999	38	57	5
2000	32	65	3

Note: See Note, table 2.20. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 56. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.35

Respondents' perceptions of police brutality in their area			
By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000			
Question: "In some places in the nation there have been charges of police brutality. Do you think there is any police brutality in your area, or not?"			
	Yes	No	Don't know/ refused
National	32%	65%	3%
Sex			
Male	36	62	2
Female	28	67	5
Race			
White	28	69	3
Nonwhite	50	45	5
Black	53	41	6
Age			
18 to 29 years	35	61	4
30 to 49 years	37	60	3
50 to 64 years	32	63	5
50 years and older	25	70	5
65 years and older	16	80	4
Education			
College post graduate	33	64	3
College graduate	37	59	4
Some college	33	66	1
High school graduate or less	29	66	5
Income			
\$75,000 and over	33	65	2
\$50,000 to \$74,999	31	67	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	34	62	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	30	68	2
Under \$20,000	33	61	6
Community			
Urban area	46	50	4
Suburban area	30	66	4
Rural area	15	83	2
Region			
East	34	63	3
Midwest	24	73	3
South	32	63	5
West	37	60	3
Politics			
Republican	22	75	3
Democrat	39	59	2
Independent	33	62	5

Note: See Note, table 2.20. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.36

Attitudes toward proposals for increased law enforcement powers			
United States, 2002			
Question: "Here are some increased powers of investigation that law enforcement agencies might use when dealing with people suspected of terrorist activity, which would also affect our civil liberties. For each, please say if you would favor or oppose it."			
Proposal	Favor	Oppose	Not sure/ declined to answer
Expanded under-cover activities to penetrate groups under suspicion	88%	10%	2%
Stronger document and physical security checks for travelers	89	9	2
Stronger document and physical security checks for access to government and private office buildings	89	10	1
Use of facial-recognition technology to scan for suspected terrorists at various locations and public events	81	17	2
Issuance of a secure I.D. technique for persons to access government and business computer systems, to avoid disruptions	78	16	6
Closer monitoring of banking and credit card transactions, to trace funding sources	72	25	2
Adoption of a national I.D. system for all U.S. citizens	59	37	5
Expanded camera surveillance on streets and in public places	58	40	2
Law enforcement monitoring of Internet discussions in chat rooms and other forums	55	41	4
Expanded government monitoring of cell phones and email, to intercept communications	44	51	4

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,017 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Mar. 13-19, 2002. For a discussion of public survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Apr. 3, 2002), p. 3. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.37

Attitudes toward level of crime in the United States				
United States, selected years 1989-2001				
Question: "Is there more crime in the U.S. than there was a year ago, or less?"				
	More	Less	Same ^a	No opinion
1989	84%	5%	5%	6%
1990	84	3	7	6
1992	89	3	4	4
1993	87	4	5	4
1996	71	15	8	6
1997	64	25	6	5
1998	52	35	8	5
2000	47	41	7	5
2001	41	43	10	6

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr011022.asp> [Oct. 24, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.38

Attitudes toward level of crime in the United States

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Is there more crime in the U.S. than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same ^a	No opinion
National	41%	43%	10%	6%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	33	51	11	5
Female	49	36	8	7
<u>Race</u>				
White	40	44	10	6
Nonwhite	51	40	7	2
Black	56	38	4	2
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	46	42	7	5
30 to 49 years	40	47	9	4
50 to 64 years	41	42	12	5
50 years and older	41	40	11	8
65 years and older	42	38	10	10
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	16	64	12	8
College graduate	35	52	8	5
Some college	38	44	12	6
High school graduate or less	54	34	7	5
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	24	62	10	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	36	47	11	6
\$30,000 to \$49,999	41	40	15	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	46	41	7	6
Under \$20,000	57	33	5	5
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	37	44	14	5
Suburban area	41	43	9	7
Rural area	48	43	5	4
<u>Region</u>				
East	31	51	10	8
Midwest	39	43	12	6
South	50	38	8	4
West	42	43	9	6
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	44	42	8	6
Democrat	42	43	10	5
Independent	38	45	11	6

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.39

Attitudes toward level of crime in own areaUnited States, selected years 1972-2001^a

Question: "Is there more crime in your area than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same ^b	No opinion
1972	51%	10%	27%	12%
1975	50	12	29	9
1977	43	17	32	8
1981	54	8	29	9
1983	37	17	36	10
January 1989	47	21	27	5
June 1989	53	18	22	7
1990	51	18	24	8
1992	54	19	23	4
1996	46	24	25	5
1997	46	32	20	2
1998	31	48	16	5
2000	34	46	15	5
2001	26	52	18	4

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

^bResponse volunteered.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr011022.asp> [Oct. 24, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Page 124 intentionally blank.

Table 2.40

Attitudes toward level of crime in own area

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Is there more crime in your area than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same ^a	No opinion
National	26%	52%	18%	4%
Sex				
Male	24	53	20	3
Female	27	51	16	6
Race				
White	25	51	19	5
Nonwhite	28	57	11	4
Black	29	62	7	2
Age				
18 to 29 years	21	64	13	2
30 to 49 years	29	50	17	4
50 to 64 years	27	48	21	4
65 years and older	25	48	21	6
65 years and older	22	47	22	9
Education				
College post graduate	17	53	24	6
College graduate	22	59	16	3
Some college	22	51	23	4
High school graduate or less	33	50	12	5
Income				
\$75,000 and over	15	59	22	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	24	56	16	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	29	46	22	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	24	52	20	4
Under \$20,000	33	51	11	5
Community				
Urban area	21	53	21	5
Suburban area	23	54	18	5
Rural area	35	46	14	5
Region				
East	20	61	16	3
Midwest	25	52	20	3
South	28	48	18	6
West	30	48	17	5
Politics				
Republican	23	54	18	5
Democrat	25	55	17	3
Independent	30	46	19	5

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.41

Respondents reporting fear of walking alone and feeling unsafe at home at night

United States, selected years 1965-2001

Question: "Is there any area near where you live--that is, within a mile--where you would be afraid to walk alone at night? How about when you're at home at night--do you feel safe and secure, or not?"

	Afraid to walk alone at night	Feel unsafe at home at night
1965	34%	NA
1967	31	NA
1972	42	17%
1975	45	20
1977	45	15
1981	45	16
1983	45	16
1989	43	10
1990	40	10
1992	44	11
1993	43	NA
1996	39	9
1997	38	9
2000	34	NA
2001	30	NA

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 318, pp. 51, 52; No. 339, p. 20; No. 371, p. 37 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 48; The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr011022.asp> [Oct. 24, 2001]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.42

Respondents reporting whether they feel afraid to walk alone at night in their own neighborhood

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Is there any area right around here--that is, within a mile--where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?"

	1973		1974		1976		1977		1980		1982		1984		1985		1987	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
National	41%	59%	45%	55%	44%	56%	45%	54%	43%	56%	47%	53%	42%	57%	40%	59%	38%	51%
Sex																		
Male	20	80	24	76	23	77	23	76	21	79	28	72	19	81	21	78	17	83
Female	59	40	63	36	61	39	63	37	60	39	60	39	57	41	56	43	55	44
Race																		
White	39	61	43	57	44	56	43	57	42	58	45	55	39	60	38	62	36	63
Black/other	54	45	60	40	48	51	59	40	52	47	61	39	54	43	60	39	50	50
Age																		
18 to 20 years	33	67	43	55	45	55	45	55	45	54	28	72	27	73	24	76	38	62
21 to 29 years	40	59	44	56	40	60	39	60	41	59	47	52	39	59	40	59	40	59
30 to 49 years	40	60	40	59	40	60	41	59	39	60	43	57	37	62	35	64	34	66
50 years and older	43	57	50	50	49	51	51	48	47	52	50	49	49	49	46	53	43	56
Education^a																		
College	35	64	42	57	36	64	41	58	42	58	49	50	40	59	36	63	38	62
High school graduate	44	55	44	55	47	52	46	53	44	55	46	54	42	57	41	58	39	61
Less than high school graduate	41	58	51	49	48	52	47	52	42	57	43	56	46	51	51	48	39	59
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	38	62	39	60	40	60	40	60	42	58	50	50	40	59	36	63	37	63
Clerical/support	55	44	59	40	56	43	60	39	53	46	57	43	51	48	46	53	47	53
Manual/service	41	58	40	60	40	60	41	59	38	62	39	60	39	60	41	58	36	63
Farming/agriculture	26	72	28	72	14	84	17	83	15	82	8	92	13	87	19	81	18	82
Region																		
Northeast	47	52	47	53	54	46	53	47	47	53	46	54	44	55	44	55	34	66
Midwest	40	60	39	60	34	66	36	63	33	66	40	60	35	64	30	68	37	63
South	39	61	47	53	42	58	47	52	44	55	50	50	48	51	44	56	42	58
West	38	61	48	51	50	50	46	54	52	48	53	47	39	61	44	55	40	60
Religion																		
Protestant	41	59	43	56	43	57	45	55	43	56	45	54	44	55	41	58	37	63
Catholic	43	56	50	48	46	54	45	54	45	55	49	51	40	58	39	60	43	56
Jewish	44	56	50	50	63	37	60	40	50	50	81	19	59	41	53	47	47	53
None	32	68	38	62	43	57	40	59	38	62	40	60	22	77	36	64	36	64
Politics																		
Republican	35	65	48	52	42	57	44	56	41	57	43	57	42	56	36	63	35	65
Democrat	46	53	45	54	49	50	48	52	46	54	51	49	46	52	47	52	40	60
Independent	39	61	42	58	39	61	41	58	41	59	44	56	37	62	35	63	39	60

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
40%	59%	40%	60%	41%	58%	43%	56%	43%	57%	47%	52%	42%	57%	41%	57%	39%	60%
16	83	19	80	19	81	24	76	26	73	30	69	26	74	26	74	23	76
56	42	55	45	58	41	58	41	55	44	60	39	55	44	52	46	52	47
39	60	38	62	39	60	41	59	40	60	45	54	40	59	40	59	38	61
45	53	52	46	50	48	56	44	58	42	56	43	51	48	47	51	45	54
27	73	47	53	43	57	52	48	31	66	44	56	45	55	45	55	40	58
38	61	42	58	33	65	40	60	40	60	49	50	39	60	41	57	41	58
32	67	33	67	38	62	39	61	38	62	43	57	40	59	39	60	36	63
51	48	45	54	48	51	49	49	51	48	51	47	45	54	44	54	41	56
36	62	40	60	39	60	43	56	42	58	45	54	40	59	42	57	38	61
41	58	38	62	41	58	42	58	44	56	48	51	43	56	37	62	38	61
51	49	45	55	51	48	50	50	45	55	53	47	44	54	46	51	44	54
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	39	61	41	59	34	66	31	68	28	71
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	63	42	58	42	58	38	62	34	66
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	43	57	46	53	43	57	42	58	42	58
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	51	49	54	45	48	50	51	46	50	48
37	62	41	59	36	63	39	61	44	56	44	55	39	60	39	60	34	65
54	46	49	51	56	42	51	48	43	57	58	41	51	47	54	44	54	45
35	64	33	67	38	61	41	59	42	58	42	57	40	60	34	64	37	62
18	82	20	80	28	72	24	76	24	76	36	64	27	70	36	64	31	69
41	57	35	65	40	59	36	62	44	56	44	56	41	58	41	57	37	62
33	66	39	61	36	64	42	57	34	66	39	60	39	60	35	64	34	64
44	56	42	58	46	52	43	57	46	54	54	45	44	55	44	54	42	57
43	57	41	59	41	58	51	49	48	52	46	53	42	57	44	56	42	57
42	57	41	58	43	56	45	54	44	56	48	52	44	55	40	58	39	59
38	60	38	62	38	61	36	63	41	59	45	54	36	63	43	56	41	58
71	24	53	47	61	39	67	33	65	35	58	39	51	46	65	35	36	64
22	77	34	66	32	64	39	61	33	66	41	58	34	65	40	58	35	64
41	59	37	62	41	58	36	63	42	58	45	54	36	64	36	63	33	66
44	56	46	54	47	52	48	51	48	51	51	49	51	48	46	53	43	56
35	63	33	67	35	64	44	56	39	61	44	55	38	61	40	58	39	59

Table 2.43

Attitudes toward the causes of crime in the United States

United States, 1993 and 2000

Question: "Next, I'm going to read some reasons that have been given as the causes of crime in this country. While some people view all of these as important causes of crime, we'd like to know which factors you think are the most important. As I read each item, please tell me whether you think it is a critical factor, a very important factor, a somewhat important factor, or not an important factor. How about. . .?"

	Critical	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
<u>The use of drugs</u>				
1993	64%	30%	4%	2%
2000	59	31	8	2
<u>Lack of moral training in the home</u>				
1993	51	38	10	1
2000	51	38	9	1
<u>Absence of fathers in the homes of young people</u>				
1993	36	35	22	6
2000	45	36	16	3
<u>The availability of guns</u>				
1993	45	26	18	10
2000	40	26	20	13
<u>Violence on TV</u>				
1993	38	29	21	11
2000	35	31	26	8
<u>The decline of religion</u>				
1993	29	31	25	13
2000	32	31	26	10
<u>Poor quality of schools</u>				
1993	34	39	19	7
2000	31	42	21	6
<u>Racism in American society</u>				
1993	31	30	27	10
2000	29	36	27	7
<u>Lack of good jobs for young people</u>				
1993	32	38	22	7
2000	23	35	31	10

Note: See Note, table 2.20. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.44

Respondents reporting whether they engaged in selected behaviors because of concern over crime

United States, 2001

Question: "Next, I'm going to read some things people do because of their concern over crime. Please tell me which, if any, of these things you, yourself, do or have done."

	Yes	No
Avoid going to certain places or neighborhoods you might otherwise want to go to	43%	56%
Had special locks installed in your home	32	67
Keep a dog for protection	32	68
Had a burglar alarm installed in your home	23	76
Bought a gun for protection of yourself or your home	21	78
Carry mace or pepper spray	17	83
Taken a self-defense course	17	83
Carry a gun for defense	11	89
Carry a knife for defense	9	91

Note: See Note, table 2.17. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr011022.asp> [Oct. 24, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.45

Attitudes toward contributions to violence in society

United States, 1994, 1999, and 2001

Question: "Our society is often described as being more inclined toward violence than some others. Do you think that. . .contribute(s) a lot, contribute(s) a little, or don't/doesn't contribute at all to this violence?"

(Percent responding "contributes a lot")

	1994	1999	2001
Lack of adult supervision of children	89%	90%	86%
Easy availability of handguns	70	65	60
Television	61	58	55
Movies	60	57	53
Video games	38	47	47
Local TV news reports	35	39	30

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Mar. 22-26, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Apr. 25, 2001), p. 3. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.46

Attitudes toward approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United StatesUnited States, selected years 1989-2000^a

Question: "Which of the following approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United States comes closer to your own view--do you think more money and effort should go to attacking the social and economic problems that lead to crime through better education and job training or more money and effort should go to deterring crime by improving law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges?"

	Attack social problems	More law enforcement	No opinion
1989	61%	32%	7%
1990	57	36	2
March 1992	64	27	9
August 1992	67	25	8
February 1994	57	39	4
August 1994	51	42	7
2000	68	27	5

Note: See Note, table 2.20. In years prior to 2000, the question wording was: "To lower the crime rate in the United States, some people think additional money and effort should go to attacking the social and economic problems that lead to crime through better education and job training. Others feel more money and effort should go to deterring crime by improving law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges. Which comes closer to your view?" For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.47

Respondents' perceptions of the Nation's progress in coping with illegal drugsUnited States, selected years 1972-2000^a

Question: "Now, how much progress do you feel the nation has made over the last year or two in coping with the problem of illegal drugs--has it made much progress, made some progress, stood still, lost some ground, or lost much ground?"

	Made much progress	Made some progress	Stood still	Lost some ground	Lost much ground	No opinion
1972	3%	32%	20%	21%	20%	5%
1974	4	36	21	19	16	5
1976	2	25	29	25	15	4
1995	2	36	30	19	11	2
1996	3	28	22	24	22	1
1999	4	42	27	14	12	1
2000	6	41	23	17	12	1

Note: See Note, table 2.20. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001212b.asp> [Apr. 2, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.48

Respondents' ratings of the effectiveness of selected approaches to control drug use

United States, 2001

Question: "I'm going to mention some actions the government could take to control the use of drugs. I'd like you to rate the effectiveness of each. First, would a big government push to . . . be very effective in controlling drugs, only somewhat effective, or not very effective at all?"

	Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not very effective
Stop the illegal importation of drugs from other countries	52%	27%	19%
Arrest people who sell illegal drugs in this country	49	33	17
Provide drug treatment programs for drug users	36	43	19
Educate Americans about the dangers of using illegal drugs	35	41	22
Arrest drug users in this country	30	34	34

Note: See Note, table 2.3. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, *NEWSRelease* (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), p. 30. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.49

Attitudes toward jailing people for possessing drugs

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. . . Too many people are put in jail just for possessing drugs."

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
National	47%	47%	6%
Sex			
Male	53	41	6
Female	40	53	7
Race, ethnicity			
White	45	49	6
Nonwhite	53	41	6
Black	47	48	5
Hispanic	60	36	4
Age			
18 to 29 years	50	47	3
30 to 49 years	48	48	4
50 to 64 years	45	48	7
65 years and older	41	48	11
Education			
College graduate	50	41	9
Some college	46	51	3
High school graduate	41	52	7
Less than high school graduate	53	43	4
Income			
\$75,000 and over	50	46	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	49	47	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	44	51	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	46	50	4
Under \$20,000	50	44	6
Community			
Large city	50	42	8
Suburb	50	43	7
Small city/town	48	48	4
Rural area	36	58	6
Region			
East	48	46	6
Midwest	40	54	6
South	46	48	6
West	54	40	6
Politics			
Republican	38	57	5
Democrat	50	44	6
Independent	54	42	4

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, *NEWSRelease* (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 17, 18. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.50

Attitudes toward treating drug use as a crime or a disease

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "All in all, should drug use be treated more like a crime or more like a disease?"

	Treat as crime	Treat as disease	Both	Neither/ don't know
National	35%	52%	9%	4%
Sex				
Male	36	53	8	3
Female	35	51	10	4
Race				
White	35	52	9	4
Nonwhite	35	55	8	2
Black	37	49	11	3
Age				
18 to 29 years	35	58	1	6
30 to 49 years	32	54	12	2
50 to 64 years	35	50	12	3
65 years and older	44	41	8	7
Education				
College graduate	29	56	12	3
Some college	33	57	5	5
High school graduate	39	48	9	4
Less than high school graduate	42	47	7	4
Income				
\$75,000 and over	41	50	6	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	30	54	14	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	31	59	8	2
\$20,000 to \$29,999	35	50	10	5
Under \$20,000	38	49	8	5
Community				
Large city	30	54	11	5
Suburb	37	51	8	4
Small city/town	34	56	7	3
Rural area	41	43	13	3
Region				
East	41	45	7	7
Midwest	32	57	8	3
South	33	53	10	4
West	37	50	11	2
Politics				
Republican	48	38	10	4
Democrat	30	61	7	2
Independent	32	54	9	5

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 17, 18. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.51

Respondents indicating too little is spent on selected problems in this country

United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of the problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (problem) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (problem)?"

(Percent responding "too little")

	Halting the rising crime rate	Dealing with drug addiction	Improving the Nation's edu- cation system	Improving the conditions of blacks	Welfare
1973	64%	65%	49%	32%	20%
1974	66	60	50	31	22
1975	65	55	49	27	23
1976	65	58	50	27	13
1977	65	55	48	25	12
1978	64	55	52	24	13
1981	69	59	52	24	13
1982	71	57	56	28	20
1983	67	60	60	29	21
1984	68	63	64	35	24
1985	63	62	60	31	18
1986	64	58	60	34	22
1987	68	65	62	35	21
1988	72	71	66	38	24
1989	73	71	69	36	24
1990	70	64	71	37	22
1991	65	58	67	34	22
1993	71	60	67	36	16
1994	75	60	71	31	13
1996	67	58	68	32	15
1998	61	58	70	34	16
2000	59	59	71	34	20

Note: See Note, table 2.19. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.52

Attitudes toward the level of spending to halt the rising crime rate

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1984-2000

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of these problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (halting the rising crime rate) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (halting the rising crime rate)?"

	1984			1985			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
National	68%	25%	4%	63%	28%	5%	64%	27%	5%	68%	24%	4%	68%	23%	4%	72%	20%	5%
Sex																		
Male	64	28	6	61	29	7	59	32	6	66	26	4	67	25	4	70	20	7
Female	71	21	3	66	26	4	67	24	4	70	22	4	69	22	4	74	19	3
Race																		
White	67	26	5	63	28	5	63	28	5	68	24	4	67	24	4	71	21	5
Black/other	74	19	4	62	26	9	68	20	4	70	23	5	73	19	6	81	13	3
Age																		
18 to 20 years	67	25	8	80	20	0	75	20	0	68	21	5	63	26	0	67	29	0
21 to 29 years	68	28	3	67	29	2	65	29	4	65	27	5	63	32	2	72	20	6
30 to 49 years	68	24	5	62	30	5	62	30	4	65	26	5	74	19	4	71	20	5
50 years and older	67	24	5	62	26	8	64	24	6	74	19	3	66	22	6	74	18	4
Education^a																		
College	68	28	3	61	30	4	62	30	3	62	30	5	71	24	2	72	21	4
High school graduate	69	21	6	67	26	5	66	25	6	73	19	4	68	24	3	73	19	5
Less than high school graduate	63	28	2	52	30	15	60	24	6	74	19	3	61	17	12	73	16	6
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	62	32	5	63	28	4	60	32	3	62	29	4	68	25	4	72	19	5
Clerical/support	76	20	2	68	23	5	68	23	5	61	36	3	66	25	5	80	18	0
Manual/service	68	23	6	62	28	7	65	23	7	75	16	5	70	22	2	70	22	6
Farming/agriculture	64	36	0	46	46	4	68	32	0	76	18	0	70	20	0	77	8	15
Region																		
Northeast	75	18	6	60	28	6	63	30	3	63	28	7	70	22	3	73	20	3
Midwest	70	25	2	62	29	6	63	27	4	73	20	3	63	28	3	70	24	4
South	65	26	4	67	24	4	66	22	7	68	22	4	72	20	5	76	16	4
West	62	29	7	60	32	6	62	33	3	67	27	4	67	24	5	69	20	8
Religion																		
Protestant	68	24	4	63	29	6	64	26	4	70	22	5	66	24	4	74	20	4
Catholic	70	24	4	66	24	5	66	27	3	66	30	2	72	21	3	72	21	5
Jewish	67	33	0	76	6	12	52	39	9	60	40	0	94	6	0	91	9	0
None	56	31	11	52	37	2	54	28	14	64	19	7	64	29	4	57	22	12
Politics																		
Republican	63	29	4	62	29	6	61	32	3	63	30	3	67	26	5	72	24	3
Democrat	72	23	3	66	27	4	70	23	4	74	19	4	72	21	4	80	12	5
Independent	68	23	6	61	29	6	59	29	6	64	26	6	67	22	3	63	25	7

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
70%	22%	4%	65%	27%	5%	71%	20%	5%	75%	16%	6%	67%	23%	7%	61%	28%	7%	59%	32%	5%
70	22	5	58	33	6	65	26	7	72	19	7	64	26	8	57	31	10	55	36	7
70	22	3	69	23	4	76	16	4	78	14	6	70	21	6	64	26	5	62	29	4
68	23	4	63	29	4	70	22	4	74	16	7	65	24	8	59	30	7	57	34	6
78	14	6	75	17	6	76	15	8	80	14	3	76	19	4	70	22	6	67	25	4
64	24	8	56	44	0	67	24	0	82	15	3	76	13	5	67	24	7	54	40	2
72	24	1	63	26	6	78	17	4	84	12	3	71	24	4	62	32	4	59	35	3
69	22	5	61	32	5	71	22	5	74	19	6	69	23	7	59	29	8	61	31	5
70	20	4	71	22	4	67	21	6	72	15	8	62	24	8	62	27	7	56	33	7
71	23	3	58	32	6	72	23	4	74	18	6	66	25	7	57	32	7	56	36	5
70	20	5	70	25	3	73	17	6	77	14	6	71	21	5	65	25	6	64	28	5
58	29	6	70	15	9	58	25	9	72	14	8	66	19	8	68	22	8	62	27	6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	21	2	72	20	7	64	27	8	55	34	7	56	40	3
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	75	19	4	76	17	6	67	24	7	60	29	8	63	28	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	17	5	79	15	4	71	20	6	71	22	6	58	33	6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	68	21	6	76	13	6	69	22	6	64	26	6	60	30	4
66	26	3	58	32	7	68	25	5	73	20	5	64	26	8	57	31	8	54	39	4
74	19	2	69	26	2	76	16	4	77	12	7	69	23	7	65	30	4	63	29	4
70	20	6	66	26	5	72	19	5	78	13	6	71	20	5	63	26	8	62	28	7
57	21	14	76	18	6	53	20	27	48	31	17	57	24	10	69	23	8	64	24	4
70	25	3	67	30	2	72	21	3	76	17	4	64	27	7	58	34	5	58	34	5
63	28	2	67	27	4	71	22	2	76	18	3	70	23	4	60	28	8	59	31	6
75	16	5	66	24	7	71	17	7	74	14	8	68	20	8	66	24	7	64	29	4
69	18	7	56	31	5	68	24	6	75	16	7	66	23	8	55	31	8	50	39	8
71	21	4	66	25	5	70	20	5	75	16	6	67	23	7	65	27	6	62	29	6
67	25	4	66	30	3	76	20	2	79	14	6	68	23	6	62	30	6	62	32	4
71	18	12	56	33	6	77	18	0	75	18	4	67	26	0	58	38	0	41	48	7
67	28	2	58	36	4	65	24	10	69	22	9	61	26	9	50	33	11	47	41	8
65	27	6	62	30	6	68	25	3	70	19	8	63	24	10	56	34	8	59	32	7
70	23	2	71	24	3	75	18	5	79	14	4	68	24	4	67	22	6	60	31	5
76	17	4	62	27	6	71	18	6	76	16	5	69	22	7	61	30	5	58	34	5

Table 2.53

Attitudes toward the level of spending to deal with drug addiction

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1984-2000

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of these problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (dealing with drug addiction) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (dealing with drug addiction)?"

	1984			1985			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
National	63%	27%	6%	62%	28%	5%	58%	32%	6%	65%	28%	4%	68%	24%	4%	71%	19%	6%
Sex																		
Male	62	27	7	61	27	8	55	36	7	62	31	4	72	21	5	74	15	7
Female	64	28	4	62	30	2	60	29	5	68	26	4	66	27	3	68	22	6
Race																		
White	63	28	5	62	28	5	57	32	6	66	28	4	67	25	4	69	20	6
Black/other	65	24	9	59	30	9	66	27	5	60	28	6	75	20	5	80	11	6
Age																		
18 to 20 years	58	42	0	60	40	0	50	40	10	58	26	10	50	40	5	67	33	0
21 to 29 years	59	35	4	62	29	6	53	42	4	57	40	2	57	34	7	69	22	7
30 to 49 years	67	24	6	64	29	5	59	33	6	65	29	4	73	22	2	72	18	6
50 years and older	62	25	8	61	26	6	60	24	7	70	22	6	71	20	4	71	18	7
Education^a																		
College	63	30	4	59	32	5	54	39	5	59	36	4	70	25	4	74	19	4
High school graduate	64	27	6	67	25	5	61	28	7	69	23	4	67	26	3	69	19	8
Less than high school graduate	61	22	12	49	31	11	58	23	7	71	19	5	68	17	8	65	20	12
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	62	30	5	59	31	5	54	37	6	63	31	5	68	25	4	73	18	6
Clerical/support	63	32	3	61	32	3	62	30	2	61	34	5	64	29	3	67	23	4
Manual/service	65	23	7	64	25	7	60	28	8	67	26	4	72	22	4	71	18	7
Farming/agriculture	64	27	9	50	38	8	63	32	5	65	24	12	90	10	0	77	8	15
Region																		
Northeast	70	23	6	66	25	6	54	34	4	71	26	2	71	23	5	69	20	4
Midwest	62	30	4	61	29	5	61	30	5	61	32	4	68	27	2	73	18	6
South	64	25	6	62	26	6	58	30	8	66	26	5	66	24	4	71	18	7
West	56	33	6	59	35	4	58	34	7	62	30	6	70	21	6	70	21	7
Religion																		
Protestant	61	28	6	64	28	4	60	29	7	67	26	4	68	24	4	72	18	7
Catholic	69	25	5	62	29	6	55	37	4	64	32	3	71	24	3	69	23	3
Jewish	78	22	0	65	18	6	52	35	4	60	20	20	67	33	0	91	9	0
None	56	33	8	49	38	6	54	33	7	51	37	7	64	23	9	59	21	16
Politics																		
Republican	57	30	8	58	31	5	52	37	7	58	38	3	68	26	4	69	23	5
Democrat	64	28	5	64	27	5	62	29	6	74	20	4	70	24	4	80	12	5
Independent	67	24	4	63	27	6	58	30	6	57	32	6	67	24	4	61	26	9

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
64%	26%	7%	58%	32%	7%	60%	27%	8%	60%	26%	9%	58%	27%	11%	58%	28%	9%	59%	28%	8%
60	28	8	48	41	8	55	32	9	57	28	11	58	26	12	56	28	12	57	29	10
67	24	5	64	26	7	64	23	7	62	25	7	58	27	10	60	28	7	60	27	7
63	27	6	54	34	8	58	29	8	57	28	10	55	29	12	56	29	10	57	29	9
68	20	7	72	19	4	73	19	7	73	17	5	71	18	8	66	23	6	63	24	6
68	24	8	69	31	0	62	33	5	58	33	6	66	26	3	42	44	9	58	26	9
66	28	4	57	34	7	61	32	4	66	28	3	60	31	6	53	33	8	56	32	9
66	26	5	58	32	8	60	28	8	58	30	8	57	28	13	62	25	10	60	29	8
61	26	9	56	30	8	60	24	10	60	20	12	58	23	12	58	28	9	58	25	9
64	29	6	52	36	8	56	32	8	55	32	9	55	30	12	58	28	10	54	32	9
67	22	7	60	31	7	65	23	6	66	22	7	61	26	10	56	30	8	64	21	8
50	28	13	72	16	6	58	18	18	56	17	15	64	19	10	62	23	11	61	26	7
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	55	31	9	58	30	10	53	31	14	57	32	8	58	33	6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	62	28	7	56	32	8	57	30	11	58	30	10	61	26	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	66	26	7	68	24	8	64	26	8	61	24	10	57	31	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	62	25	8	62	21	9	61	24	9	60	26	9	63	22	9
62	30	6	53	34	11	54	34	9	55	30	10	53	29	14	55	32	9	52	34	8
68	26	3	61	28	6	66	20	9	61	28	7	58	26	13	61	26	9	62	24	7
63	24	9	56	34	7	64	25	7	65	22	8	62	25	8	58	26	11	63	24	9
71	14	14	53	35	0	50	36	14	52	38	7	48	19	14	77	15	8	44	28	24
58	29	8	56	34	7	67	21	8	61	25	8	57	28	12	59	30	8	60	29	8
63	28	7	57	35	6	58	30	6	59	31	7	61	25	10	59	27	8	61	26	8
71	23	4	64	25	8	61	26	10	62	23	10	57	26	12	68	20	12	58	27	8
61	25	9	48	38	8	55	32	6	56	28	9	58	28	10	53	23	16	56	31	10
67	25	6	60	29	6	60	26	8	62	25	8	60	26	10	55	31	10	60	27	8
58	30	8	55	36	6	60	30	10	58	28	9	60	26	10	59	28	10	61	25	10
65	29	0	48	28	22	54	27	9	64	29	7	59	26	11	60	28	9	48	44	7
57	26	12	42	42	1	56	31	10	53	29	13	52	28	15	58	25	8	55	30	7
60	32	7	51	37	10	50	34	12	54	31	9	49	32	16	54	34	10	54	32	10
64	25	6	66	23	6	70	23	4	67	22	7	68	22	7	64	25	7	62	27	8
69	22	6	55	35	6	58	27	8	58	28	9	57	27	11	57	27	10	58	27	8

Table 2.54

Attitudes toward severity of courts in own area

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1984-2000

Question: "In general, do you think the courts in this area deal too harshly or not harshly enough with criminals?"

	1984			1985			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right
National	3%	82%	11%	3%	84%	9%	3%	85%	8%	3%	79%	12%	4%	82%	10%	3%	84%	9%
Sex																		
Male	5	80	12	4	84	10	4	84	8	4	78	14	5	79	13	4	79	12
Female	2	83	10	3	85	8	3	86	8	3	80	11	3	84	8	1	87	6
Race																		
White	3	84	10	3	85	9	2	87	8	2	81	12	3	83	10	2	83	10
Black/other	6	71	16	5	80	8	9	77	9	7	70	14	8	73	11	4	87	3
Age																		
18 to 20 years	7	73	11	6	78	14	8	79	8	0	76	17	8	84	8	10	83	8
21 to 29 years	6	78	12	6	79	10	5	81	9	4	78	9	8	77	10	2	86	8
30 to 49 years	3	83	11	3	85	9	3	86	8	4	78	13	3	82	11	3	83	9
50 years and older	6	84	11	2	87	8	2	88	7	2	82	12	2	83	9	2	84	9
Education^a																		
College	2	82	11	3	83	11	2	84	9	3	77	14	3	78	13	2	81	10
High school graduate	4	82	10	4	86	7	3	88	7	3	84	9	4	85	7	3	86	8
Less than high school graduate	2	79	14	4	81	10	4	81	9	5	71	18	3	82	8	3	82	8
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																		
Professional/business	2	83	11	2	84	11	1	88	8	2	80	13	3	83	10	2	82	11
Clerical/support	2	86	9	2	90	6	4	88	7	2	81	12	3	84	9	1	87	7
Manual/service	4	80	11	5	83	8	4	83	9	5	78	11	4	81	10	4	84	8
Farming/agriculture	3	87	10	3	89	5	3	83	6	2	82	12	8	79	8	0	86	9
Region																		
Northeast	3	82	11	2	86	8	3	88	6	3	82	10	6	83	9	2	86	5
Midwest	4	82	11	3	85	9	3	87	7	4	80	10	4	80	11	3	81	12
South	3	80	11	4	82	11	4	82	10	4	78	14	3	83	10	3	86	8
West	2	83	11	4	84	8	3	85	8	3	79	12	5	80	8	3	80	11
Religion																		
Protestant	2	82	12	3	84	10	3	85	8	3	80	12	4	83	9	2	85	9
Catholic	4	82	10	3	87	8	2	88	6	2	81	12	3	86	9	3	83	9
Jewish	0	89	0	3	78	6	8	90	3	0	80	20	3	73	17	0	96	0
None	7	72	13	6	76	10	4	72	14	7	70	7	11	64	18	7	72	9
Politics																		
Republican	2	88	9	2	88	8	2	87	8	2	86	10	2	85	9	1	91	6
Democrat	4	80	11	3	84	10	3	88	6	4	78	13	5	80	10	3	83	10
Independent	3	80	12	5	82	8	3	82	10	4	76	12	4	80	11	4	77	10

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. The "about right" response was volunteered. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right
3%	83%	9%	4%	80%	11%	3%	81%	10%	3%	85%	8%	5%	78%	11%	6%	74%	13%	8%	68%	16%
3	82	11	5	78	12	5	81	10	3	83	9	5	78	11	7	72	15	8	67	18
4	83	8	3	81	11	2	82	10	2	87	6	4	78	10	6	76	12	7	70	14
3	84	9	3	80	12	2	82	10	2	86	8	3	79	11	4	75	13	6	70	16
8	77	8	10	76	8	9	76	11	5	82	8	11	72	10	12	71	12	14	64	14
10	80	5	3	70	20	16	74	7	7	70	14	11	75	5	12	65	14	15	60	14
5	80	9	8	77	9	2	86	8	4	81	9	6	76	10	10	71	11	10	65	14
4	81	10	4	80	11	4	81	9	2	87	7	5	79	11	7	75	12	8	68	16
2	86	8	3	81	12	2	81	11	2	86	7	3	78	11	4	76	15	5	70	16
4	82	10	4	78	12	3	80	11	2	84	10	5	76	12	6	72	15	8	66	17
4	83	9	5	82	9	4	84	8	4	87	6	3	82	9	5	78	12	7	73	13
3	86	6	2	78	17	5	78	9	3	86	6	6	77	9	9	74	11	9	69	14
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	81	10	2	84	9	4	78	12	3	78	13	6	70	16
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	85	10	2	87	8	4	82	10	5	76	13	6	72	14
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	86	7	2	87	7	4	76	13	6	77	11	7	72	14
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	78	11	4	84	7	6	76	10	10	70	13	11	64	14
3	82	11	3	78	11	2	80	12	2	83	10	3	78	11	5	74	14	8	66	18
4	84	8	3	80	12	3	83	8	2	88	6	5	81	9	5	78	11	5	71	16
3	84	8	5	82	11	5	82	9	3	86	6	5	77	11	7	75	13	9	71	13
0	85	15	0	89	8	3	94	3	5	81	10	4	81	8	7	76	16	4	70	15
4	83	10	4	83	8	2	82	11	3	86	6	6	76	12	5	76	13	8	63	18
4	80	10	3	78	12	4	79	11	2	84	8	5	75	13	6	74	13	6	74	13
3	85	8	5	82	10	4	84	8	2	86	8	4	81	9	7	76	11	7	70	16
4	82	9	4	73	16	4	80	10	3	84	9	4	77	11	6	69	17	9	65	16
3	85	8	4	81	10	3	82	9	2	87	7	4	80	10	6	76	12	6	72	14
4	84	8	2	80	13	3	82	9	3	85	7	5	79	11	5	77	12	7	70	15
0	82	15	0	81	9	0	81	12	2	79	10	3	76	9	0	72	18	13	57	18
1	74	16	8	72	14	3	77	14	3	76	12	8	70	10	10	62	20	12	56	21
2	87	8	2	82	11	3	85	8	2	88	7	4	84	10	3	81	12	4	78	12
4	82	9	5	79	12	4	79	12	3	85	8	5	75	13	7	75	13	10	66	17
5	80	10	5	79	10	4	81	9	3	84	8	5	76	9	8	71	14	8	66	16

Table 2.55

Attitudes toward availability of criminal records of ex-offendersBy race and income level, United States, 2000^a

Question: "Some people believe that if a person convicted of a crime serves his or her sentence and then does not violate the law for a period, such as 5 years, government record agencies SHOULD NOT make that criminal record available to employers or licensing agencies. Other people believe employers and government licensing agencies SHOULD HAVE access to such government records, and be able to consider the fact of a conviction in the hiring or licensing process. Overall, which of these two approaches do you prefer?"

	Should not make criminal records available after a period of time	Should make criminal records available	Don't know
National	43%	52%	6%
<u>Race</u>			
White	40	55	5
Black	60	33	7
<u>Income</u>			
\$50,000 and over	37	58	5
Less than \$50,000	48	47	5

Note: See Note, table 2.15.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information*, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 42. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.56

Attitudes toward State agencies putting criminal history records on the InternetBy age and Internet use, United States, 2000^a

Question: "Some people believe that State government agencies that maintain criminal history records that are open to the general public under their State law should post these on the Internet, so that anyone who wanted to could check whether someone had such a record. Other people feel that even though such records could be obtained by applying to the government record agency for a copy, it isn't a good idea to put all those records on the Internet for anyone to obtain. Which would you prefer: State agencies putting all these records on the Internet, or not doing that?"

	Favor putting records on the Internet	Do not favor putting records on the Internet	Don't know
National	9%	90%	1%
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 34 years	13	87	(b)
35 to 54 years	8	90	1
55 years and older	4	94	3
<u>Internet use</u>			
Use	11	88	1
Don't use	5	93	2

Note: See Note, table 2.15.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.^bLess than 0.5%.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information*, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 45. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.57

Attitudes toward access to records of juveniles processed in juvenile courtsBy race and education level, United States, 2000^a

Question: "Today many States limit the availability of records about juveniles charged and processed in juvenile courts; for example, not allowing access to employers, government licensing agencies, or military enlistment offices. This is based on a judgment that juveniles should be given an opportunity to overcome youthful criminal behavior. Out of concern over current juvenile crimes, some people would open juvenile records to greater access. Please listen to the following two policies and indicate which ONE you think would be BEST."

	National	Race		Education	
		White	Black	No college	Some college
Keep restrictions on disclosure of juvenile court records, because giving juvenile offenders the chance to overcome a bad record is a sound approach.	53%	51%	69%	50%	56%
Open juvenile records to the same government and private organizations that can get adult criminal records, since protecting society and the public should be the primary concern.	40	43	22	44	37
Don't know/none of these	6	6	8	6	7

Note: See Note, table 2.15.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information*, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 40. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.58

Attitudes toward the treatment of juveniles who commit violent crimes

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "In your view, how should juveniles between the ages of 14 and 17 who commit violent crimes be treated in the criminal justice system--should they be treated the same as adults, or should they be given more lenient treatment in a juvenile court?"

	Same as adults	More lenient treatment	Tougher ^a	Depends ^a	Don't know/refused
National	65%	24%	1%	9%	1%
Sex					
Male	69	21	1	8	1
Female	61	27	2	9	1
Race					
White	67	22	1	9	1
Black	52	35	2	10	1
Nonwhite ^b	55	33	3	8	1
Age					
18 to 29 years	65	25	2	7	1
30 to 49 years	66	23	2	8	1
50 to 64 years	67	22	1	8	2
50 years and older	64	23	1	10	2
65 years and older	61	23	1	11	4
Education					
College post graduate	55	32	3	10	(c)
College graduate	63	29	0	8	0
Some college	68	21	1	9	1
High school graduate or less	66	22	2	8	2
Income					
\$75,000 and over	60	27	3	9	1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	69	20	2	9	0
\$30,000 to \$49,999	68	20	2	9	1
\$20,000 to \$29,999	61	24	0	13	2
Under \$20,000	64	28	(c)	6	2
Community					
Urban area	59	29	1	11	(c)
Suburban area	69	20	2	7	2
Rural area	65	24	1	8	2
Region					
East	60	26	2	9	3
Midwest	71	19	(c)	8	2
South	62	26	2	10	(c)
West	68	23	1	7	1
Politics					
Republican	67	19	2	10	2
Democrat	60	31	1	6	2
Independent	68	19	2	10	1

Note: See Note, table 2.20. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.^bIncludes black respondents.^cLess than 0.5%.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.59

Attitudes toward the penalty for murderUnited States, selected years 1985-2001^a

Question: "What do you think should be the penalty for murder--the death penalty or life imprisonment with absolutely no possibility of parole?"

	Death penalty	Life imprisonment without possibility of parole	No opinion ^b
1985	56%	34%	10%
1986	55	35	10
1991	53	35	11
1992	50	37	13
1993	59	29	12
1994	50	32	18
1997	61	29	10
1999	56	38	6
2000	52	37	11
2001	57	41	3

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,016 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 19-21, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.^bIncludes volunteered responses such as "other," "neither," and "depends."Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010302.asp> [Mar. 2, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.60

Attitudes toward the penalty for murder

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "If you could choose between the following two approaches, which do you think is the better penalty for murder--the death penalty or life imprisonment, with absolutely no possibility of parole?"

	Death penalty	Life imprisonment without possibility of parole	Don't know/ refused
National	52%	43%	5%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	59	35	6
Female	47	49	4
<u>Race</u>			
White	59	38	3
Nonwhite	32	58	10
Black	10	73	17
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	60	37	3
30 to 49 years	53	42	5
50 to 64 years	54	41	5
50 years and older	48	47	5
65 years and older	42	54	4
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	46	53	1
College graduate	55	43	2
Some college	54	37	9
High school graduate or less	53	44	3
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	61	39	0
\$50,000 to \$74,999	54	41	5
\$30,000 to \$49,999	62	35	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	46	45	9
Under \$20,000	45	51	4
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	47	47	6
Suburban area	54	41	5
Rural area	53	44	3
<u>Region</u>			
East	45	52	3
Midwest	54	39	7
South	54	40	6
West	56	41	3
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	69	30	1
Democrat	41	52	7
Independent	52	44	4

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 537 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 6-9, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, [see Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.61

Attitudes toward the death penalty

United States, selected years 1965-2001

Question: "Do you believe in capital punishment, that is, the death penalty, or are you opposed to it?"

	Believe in it	Opposed to it	Not sure/ refused
1965	38%	47%	15%
1969	48	38	14
1970	47	42	11
1973	59	31	10
1976	67	25	8
1983	68	27	5
1997	75	22	3
1999	71	21	8
2000	64	25	11
2001	67	26	7

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,022 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted July 20-25, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Aug. 17, 2001), p. 2. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.62

Attitudes toward the death penaltyBy demographic characteristics, United States, 2001^a

Question: "Do you believe in capital punishment, that is, the death penalty, or are you opposed to it?"

	Believe in it	Opposed to it	Not sure/ refused
National	67%	26%	7%
Sex			
Male	74	22	4
Female	62	30	8
Race, ethnicity			
White	73	22	6
Black	46	43	10
Hispanic	63	33	4
Age			
18 to 24 years	72	23	5
25 to 29 years	66	23	11
30 to 39 years	71	24	5
40 to 49 years	63	33	4
50 to 64 years	66	28	6
65 years and older	67	22	11
Education			
College post graduate	53	40	7
College graduate	66	29	5
Some college	70	26	3
High school graduate or less	69	22	8
Income			
\$75,000 and over	61	34	5
\$50,000 to \$74,999	73	25	2
\$35,000 to \$49,999	73	19	8
\$25,000 to \$34,999	65	27	8
\$15,000 to \$24,999	66	21	13
Less than \$15,000	67	29	4
Region			
East	65	31	4
Midwest	74	20	6
South	63	28	9
West	70	23	8
Politics			
Republican	85	12	2
Democrat	54	36	10
Independent	68	25	6

Note: See [Note, table 2.61](#). For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.63

Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1978-2000

Question: "Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?"

	1978		1980		1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987	
	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
National	66%	28%	67%	27%	74%	20%	73%	22%	70%	24%	76%	19%	71%	23%	70%	24%
<u>Sex</u>																
Male	74	24	75	21	80	16	80	16	77	19	80	17	79	17	73	22
Female	61	31	61	32	69	24	68	27	66	27	72	22	66	28	67	26
<u>Race</u>																
White	69	25	70	24	77	18	76	19	75	20	79	17	75	20	74	21
Black/other	44	48	40	51	51	42	49	44	46	46	53	35	49	43	46	43
<u>Age</u>																
18 to 20 years	63	33	70	27	68	26	64	29	68	27	69	29	68	24	64	36
21 to 29 years	64	31	66	31	74	20	74	22	76	19	75	20	72	23	69	27
30 to 49 years	67	28	69	26	74	21	76	19	70	24	76	18	70	27	74	21
50 years and older	68	25	66	25	74	20	71	25	67	26	76	20	74	20	66	26
<u>Education</u> ^a																
College	66	29	67	30	71	21	75	22	73	22	73	22	72	23	70	26
High school graduate	68	26	71	23	78	17	75	20	71	23	78	17	73	23	73	20
Less than high school graduate	60	31	56	33	64	26	61	29	59	33	72	21	64	26	54	38
<u>Income</u>																
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<u>Occupation</u>																
Professional/business	68	28	68	28	72	23	73	23	75	20	76	19	76	21	72	25
Clerical/support	72	23	69	26	79	17	78	18	71	23	76	19	70	25	74	19
Manual/service	65	28	68	26	73	21	71	23	69	25	76	19	69	25	68	24
Farming/agriculture	76	20	71	15	77	15	85	10	61	39	76	22	83	17	65	28
<u>Region</u>																
Northeast	67	28	68	26	74	22	70	25	74	20	74	21	70	26	72	23
Midwest	69	24	66	26	72	21	75	21	65	28	73	20	69	26	67	26
South	64	30	66	28	74	21	70	25	68	27	76	19	67	26	67	26
West	64	31	70	25	76	18	79	16	78	16	79	17	83	13	76	19
<u>Religion</u>																
Protestant	67	27	67	26	73	21	74	22	70	24	76	19	72	23	70	24
Catholic	68	27	71	23	76	20	72	22	72	23	78	19	69	26	70	24
Jewish	79	21	75	22	73	19	67	26	85	4	62	31	79	16	80	10
None	58	38	54	39	73	16	72	26	68	26	75	20	73	24	65	28
<u>Politics</u>																
Republican	73	23	77	18	79	16	85	13	80	16	83	13	80	15	83	14
Democrat	63	31	63	31	71	24	67	28	64	30	70	24	66	30	61	32
Independent	66	27	66	28	73	20	72	22	70	23	75	19	72	23	69	24

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
71%	22%	74%	20%	74%	19%	72%	22%	72%	21%	74%	20%	71%	22%	68%	25%	63%	29%
77	18	81	16	79	18	77	19	78	16	79	17	79	17	74	20	71	23
66	26	69	24	71	21	67	25	67	24	71	22	65	25	63	28	57	33
76	18	77	18	78	16	75	19	75	18	78	16	75	18	72	20	69	24
46	44	57	36	58	36	53	37	54	38	56	34	54	35	49	42	42	48
61	35	69	25	66	34	60	33	70	23	73	21	70	22	60	37	53	38
73	24	71	24	79	16	74	23	69	26	72	21	72	22	69	25	66	28
72	21	76	20	74	21	71	22	73	20	75	20	71	22	69	24	64	29
70	22	74	19	74	18	71	21	73	20	75	18	71	21	66	25	62	28
71	23	72	22	73	21	69	25	69	24	73	21	69	24	67	26	63	29
73	20	77	18	77	18	74	20	75	18	77	17	76	17	71	21	65	28
59	27	69	24	70	21	72	21	71	18	67	25	68	23	63	27	61	28
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	73	22	77	18	75	20	72	21	69	25
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	18	76	18	74	18	70	22	67	25
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	81	14	75	19	72	24	68	24	66	28
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	67	25	71	22	64	25	60	31	55	36
72	21	75	19	72	20	67	25	70	23	75	20	70	22	68	25	63	30
72	21	73	21	81	14	73	22	72	21	74	19	73	20	68	24	63	28
71	24	74	21	74	22	75	20	74	19	75	19	72	21	68	24	65	27
67	29	91	4	78	7	81	11	74	21	74	18	72	20	71	20	72	22
66	26	72	19	75	20	71	23	65	26	70	24	66	26	62	28	55	35
70	24	72	22	76	20	70	24	72	18	72	20	72	22	70	24	65	27
72	21	75	21	72	20	71	22	75	19	76	19	72	20	69	23	64	27
76	17	76	19	76	16	76	20	72	24	78	16	74	19	68	24	66	28
72	22	75	20	75	19	72	22	74	20	75	18	72	20	68	24	64	27
73	21	73	20	76	18	75	21	68	22	75	19	70	23	68	25	66	27
63	23	87	13	74	15	53	34	70	21	72	26	63	28	72	20	57	36
67	26	71	24	72	24	65	28	72	23	73	20	69	22	64	26	60	32
81	12	82	14	83	12	84	13	81	13	84	12	85	12	77	17	75	19
62	32	68	26	68	24	63	29	64	30	65	28	61	30	62	31	57	34
72	20	73	21	74	21	69	23	71	20	76	17	70	21	67	23	62	30

Table 2.64

Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder			
United States, selected years 1953-2002 ^a			
Question: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"			
	Yes, in favor	No, not in favor	No opinion ^b
1953	68%	25%	7%
1956	53	34	13
1957	47	34	18
1960	53	36	11
1965	45	43	12
1966	42	47	11
1967	54	38	8
1969	51	40	9
1971	49	40	11
March 1972	50	41	9
November 1972	57	32	11
1976	66	26	8
1978	62	27	11
1981	66	25	9
January 1985	72	20	8
November 1985	75	17	8
1986	70	22	8
1988	79	16	5
1991	76	18	6
1994	80	16	4
1995	77	13	10
1999	71	22	7
2000	66	28	6
2001	68	26	6
2002	72	25	3

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 475 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 6-9, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

^bMay include other response categories such as "depends" or "refused."

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr020520.asp> [May 23, 2002]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.65

Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder			
By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002			
Question: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"			
	Yes, in favor	No, not in favor	Don't know/refused
National	72%	25%	3%
Sex			
Male	80	19	1
Female	64	31	5
Race			
White	77	21	2
Nonwhite	53	41	6
Black	47	49	4
Age			
18 to 29 years	73	26	1
30 to 49 years	75	22	3
50 to 64 years	67	32	1
50 years and older	68	27	5
65 years and older	69	23	8
Education			
College post graduate	65	31	4
College graduate	79	20	1
Some college	70	28	2
High school graduate or less	73	22	5
Income			
\$75,000 and over	74	24	2
\$50,000 to \$74,999	72	26	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	68	29	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	69	31	0
Under \$20,000	77	18	5
Community			
Urban area	66	31	3
Suburban area	73	24	3
Rural area	76	21	3
Region			
East	68	29	3
Midwest	69	29	2
South	72	23	5
West	80	19	1
Politics			
Republican	75	22	3
Democrat	67	29	4
Independent	73	24	3

Note: See Note, table 2.64. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.66

Attitudes toward the death penalty for murder for selected groups			
United States, 2002			
Question: "Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for . . .?"			
	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/refused
Women	68%	29%	3%
The mentally ill	19	75	6
The mentally retarded	13	82	5
Juveniles	26	69	5

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 6-9, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr020520.asp> [May 23, 2002]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.67

Attitudes toward fairness of the application of the death penalty

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "Generally speaking, do you believe the death penalty is applied fairly or unfairly in this country today?"

	Applied fairly	Applied unfairly	Don't know/ refused
National	53%	40%	7%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	58	39	3
Female	50	41	9
<u>Race</u>			
White	58	36	6
Nonwhite	39	54	7
Black	18	72	10
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	65	33	2
30 to 49 years	50	44	6
50 to 64 years	50	41	9
50 years and older	50	39	11
65 years and older	51	37	12
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	41	54	5
College graduate	53	42	5
Some college	55	40	5
High school graduate or less	56	35	9
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	56	40	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	57	39	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	54	41	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	47	47	6
Under \$20,000	52	39	9
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	48	45	7
Suburban area	56	39	5
Rural area	54	37	9
<u>Region</u>			
East	48	43	9
Midwest	53	41	6
South	57	35	8
West	54	42	4
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	65	31	4
Democrat	44	49	7
Independent	52	41	7

Note: See Note, table 2.66. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.68

Reported reasons for favoring the death penalty for persons convicted of murder

United States, 2001

Question: "Why do you favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?"

Reason for favoring	
An eye for an eye/they took a life/fits the crime	48%
Save taxpayers money/cost associated with prison	20
Deterrent for potential crimes/set an example	10
They deserve it	6
Support/believe in death penalty	6
Depends on the type of crime they commit	6
They will repeat their crime/keep them from repeating it	6
Biblical reasons	3
Relieves prison overcrowding	2
If there's no doubt the person committed the crime	2
Life sentences don't always mean life in prison	2
Don't believe they can be rehabilitated	2
Serve justice	1
Fair punishment	1
Would help/benefit families of victims	1
Other	3
No opinion	1

Note: See Note, table 2.59. This question was asked only of the respondents who answered "yes, in favor" to the question presented in table 2.64. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010302.asp> [Mar. 2, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.69

Attitudes toward the deterrent effect of the death penaltyBy demographic characteristics, United States, 2001^a

Question: "Do you feel that executing people who commit murder deters others from committing murder, or do you think such executions don't have much effect?"

	Deters others	Not much effect	Not sure/ refused
National	42%	52%	7%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	49	45	7
Female	35	59	6
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	45	49	6
Black	30	60	9
Hispanic	37	52	12
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 24 years	39	60	1
25 to 29 years	32	58	10
30 to 39 years	44	50	6
40 to 49 years	42	52	5
50 to 64 years	41	50	9
65 years and older	45	48	7
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	40	58	2
College graduate	36	58	6
Some college	42	54	4
High school graduate or less	44	48	8
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	43	53	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	41	55	4
\$35,000 to \$49,999	52	43	5
\$25,000 to \$34,999	41	48	10
\$15,000 to \$24,999	34	63	3
Less than \$15,000	35	52	13
<u>Region</u>			
East	43	50	7
Midwest	40	53	8
South	41	53	6
West	43	54	3
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	58	35	6
Democrat	32	62	6
Independent	36	58	5

Note: See Note, table 2.61. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.70

Respondents reporting having a gun in their home

United States, selected years 1959-2001

Question: "Do you have a gun in your home?"

	Yes	No
1959	49%	51%
1965	48	52
1968	50	50
1972	43	55
1975	44	54
1980	45	53
1983	40	58
1985	44	55
1989	47	51
1990	47	52
1991	46	53
March 1993	48	51
October 1993	51	48
July 1996	38	60
November 1996	44	54
1997	42	57
1999	36	62
April 2000	42	57
August 2000	39	60
2001	40	59

Note: See Note, table 2.17. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr011022.asp> [Oct. 24, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.71

Respondents reporting having a gun in their home

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you have a gun in your home?"

	Yes	No
National	40%	59%
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	49	50
Female	31	67
<u>Race</u>		
White	43	56
Nonwhite	25	75
Black	25	75
<u>Age</u>		
18 to 29 years	35	65
30 to 49 years	39	59
50 to 64 years	46	53
50 years and older	45	54
65 years and older	42	56
<u>Education</u>		
College post graduate	31	67
College graduate	38	60
Some college	43	56
High school graduate or less	41	58
<u>Income</u>		
\$75,000 and over	44	55
\$50,000 to \$74,999	49	49
\$30,000 to \$49,999	48	51
\$20,000 to \$29,999	37	63
Under \$20,000	26	73
<u>Community</u>		
Urban area	32	68
Suburban area	36	62
Rural area	57	42
<u>Region</u>		
East	30	69
Midwest	39	60
South	47	52
West	41	57
<u>Politics</u>		
Republican	49	49
Democrat	32	67
Independent	39	60

Note: See Note, table 2.17. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.72

Respondents reporting a firearm in their home

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home (or garage) any guns or revolvers?"

(Percent reporting having any firearms)

	1973	1974	1976	1977	1980	1982	1984	1985	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1996	1998	2000
National	47%	46%	47%	51%	48%	45%	45%	44%	46%	40%	46%	43%	40%	42%	41%	40%	35%	32%
Sex																		
Male	53	51	52	55	56	54	53	54	51	50	55	53	50	53	50	47	43	42
Female	43	42	43	47	41	39	40	36	43	33	39	34	32	34	33	34	29	25
Race																		
White	49	48	58	53	50	48	48	46	49	43	50	45	42	45	44	44	40	37
Black/other	38	32	37	34	29	30	30	29	33	28	23	29	29	26	24	24	16	13
Age																		
18 to 20 years	50	34	38	54	48	51	44	39	43	33	35	40	22	48	42	35	20	23
21 to 29 years	43	48	45	45	48	41	37	40	35	34	33	34	36	38	34	32	23	24
30 to 49 years	51	49	52	55	50	51	48	48	51	42	48	46	40	44	41	39	37	32
50 years and older	46	44	44	49	46	44	49	44	47	42	50	42	42	42	43	47	39	38
Education^a																		
College	45	42	44	45	41	39	42	40	43	37	41	37	34	38	38	38	31	33
High school graduate	50	48	50	54	51	51	48	49	50	43	51	47	46	46	44	46	43	36
Less than high school graduate	44	49	42	51	51	41	43	38	44	39	46	47	39	47	37	38	34	25
Income																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	49	52	49	43	43
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	48	50	44	42	37
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	44	38	44	32	37
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	32	28	26	22	18
Occupation																		
Professional/business	48	45	46	48	45	42	42	40	45	39	46	38	35	38	38	39	35	32
Clerical/support	42	43	40	49	45	39	41	40	45	37	37	38	35	36	36	40	31	28
Manual/service	48	48	48	52	48	49	48	48	46	41	52	50	47	51	45	43	38	35
Farming/agriculture	83	79	62	66	81	77	84	78	75	82	87	83	56	68	67	67	72	44
Region																		
Northeast	22	27	29	32	27	32	32	28	31	25	32	30	28	29	26	24	22	18
Midwest	51	49	48	53	52	48	44	48	46	41	46	44	42	41	46	42	37	37
South	62	59	60	62	59	52	52	53	55	47	53	52	50	52	48	48	42	37
West	47	42	44	46	44	47	49	40	47	42	48	39	32	39	35	39	32	33
Religion																		
Protestant	56	52	53	57	56	52	52	50	52	46	53	48	46	47	46	46	42	37
Catholic	35	37	36	39	36	36	34	35	36	31	36	36	30	36	34	34	27	26
Jewish	14	7	26	17	6	11	22	9	25	0	18	6	10	9	18	11	12	19
None	32	40	43	50	39	37	36	44	39	41	36	34	31	37	32	35	26	32
Politics																		
Republican	53	49	50	56	53	50	56	47	51	46	50	48	42	51	49	49	46	46
Democrat	44	45	45	49	46	44	42	47	44	39	43	40	41	35	37	35	30	27
Independent	49	47	48	50	47	44	40	39	44	36	46	42	37	42	39	38	32	30

Note: See Note, table 2.19. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

Table 2.73

Respondents reporting a firearm in their home

By type of firearm and demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home (or garage) any guns or revolvers?" If yes, "Is it a pistol, shotgun, rifle, or what?"

(Percent reporting having a firearm)

	Firearm in the home			
	Any type	Type of firearm ^a		
		Pistol	Shotgun	Rifle
National	32%	62%	58%	62%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	42	62	65	64
Female	25	61	49	57
<u>Race</u>				
White	37	61	59	64
Black/other	13	72	41	35
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 20 years	23	62	69	92
21 to 29 years	24	55	54	57
30 to 49 years	32	60	55	60
50 years and older	38	64	61	62
<u>Education</u>				
College	33	63	54	59
High school graduate	36	66	63	65
Less than high school graduate	25	44	62	63
<u>Income</u>				
\$50,000 and over	43	64	58	67
\$30,000 to \$49,999	37	59	60	65
\$20,000 to \$29,999	37	62	56	57
Under \$20,000	18	51	54	45
<u>Occupation</u>				
Professional/business	32	63	56	63
Clerical/support	28	66	50	55
Manual/service	35	60	60	64
Farming/agriculture	44	56	62	50
<u>Region</u>				
Northeast	18	52	51	70
Midwest	37	48	70	66
South	37	72	61	55
West	33	64	40	63
<u>Religion</u>				
Protestant	37	60	63	59
Catholic	26	62	46	62
Jewish	19	89	44	78
None	32	63	54	70
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	46	60	62	64
Democrat	27	59	53	54
Independent	30	64	57	64

Note: See Note, table 2.19. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents for pistol, shotgun, and rifle are based on the 32% subsample of respondents reporting that they have a gun in their home. Percents add to more than 100 because some respondents reported owning more than one type.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.74

Respondents reporting a firearm in their home

By type of firearm and demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home or garage any guns or revolvers?" If yes, "Do you have a . . . or not?"

(Percent reporting having a firearm)

	Firearm in the home				
	Any type	Type of firearm ^a			
		Pistol	Shotgun	Rifle	All three
National	39%	59%	73%	74%	41%
<u>Sex</u>					
Male	48	62	78	76	43
Female	31	55	67	70	37
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>					
White	45	59	75	75	42
Black	12	65	64	47	38
Hispanic	7	23	35	62	0
<u>Age</u>					
18 to 24 years	19	33	54	77	24
25 to 29 years	42	62	91	76	55
30 to 39 years	45	67	81	76	50
40 to 49 years	43	47	74	75	35
50 to 64 years	42	69	75	77	49
65 years and older	38	62	59	61	26
<u>Education</u>					
College post graduate	35	55	75	60	36
College graduate	35	69	72	69	45
Some college	42	65	68	79	42
High school graduate or less	39	54	77	74	40
<u>Income</u>					
\$75,000 and over	43	56	71	69	35
\$50,000 to \$74,999	51	61	74	76	45
\$35,000 to \$49,999	47	56	74	71	36
\$25,000 to \$34,999	34	60	80	88	46
\$15,000 to \$24,999	34	40	68	55	26
Under \$15,000	17	78	67	78	56
<u>Region</u>					
East	34	40	71	72	27
Midwest	39	53	82	74	39
South	43	67	77	74	47
West	38	68	60	75	45
<u>Politics</u>					
Republican	49	62	73	71	40
Democrat	28	63	70	77	47
Independent	41	53	74	76	36

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,014 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 26-May 5, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aPercents for pistol, shotgun, and rifle are based on the 39% subsample of respondents reporting that they have a gun in their home. Percents add to more than 100 because some respondents reported owning more than one type.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.75

Attitudes toward gun control

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1993, 1999, and 2000

Question: "What do you think is more important--to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?"

	Protect right to own guns			Control gun ownership		
	1993	1999	2000	1993	1999	2000
National	34%	30%	38%	57%	65%	57%
Sex						
Male	44	42	49	49	53	46
Female	26	19	28	64	75	67
Race						
White	37	32	41	54	63	53
Nonwhite	19	17	24	73	75	74
Black	18	17	23	74	75	76
Age						
Under 30 years	32	26	33	64	71	65
30 to 49 years	36	30	39	57	65	57
50 to 64 years	35	36	46	55	59	49
65 years and older	35	30	35	49	61	53
Education						
College graduate	35	31	34	59	64	61
Some college	40	29	38	53	66	57
High school graduate	31	30	40	62	65	55
Less than high school graduate	33	30	42	50	63	53
Income						
\$50,000 and over	34	38	NA	59	59	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	37	31	42	57	64	54
\$20,000 to \$29,999	36	24	42	57	72	53
Under \$20,000	33	26	35	56	66	59
Region						
East	27	25	31	66	70	66
Midwest	33	31	43	60	65	52
South	39	30	41	51	64	55
West	36	33	36	55	60	56
Politics						
Republican	45	42	50	47	53	46
Democrat	25	19	28	65	76	67
Independent	38	33	41	56	63	56

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,303 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 2-6, 2000. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease**, May 20, 1999, p. 10; May 11, 2000, pp. 17, 18 (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.76

Attitudes toward laws covering the sale of firearms

United States, selected years 1990-2001

Question: "In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as they are now	No opinion
1990	78%	2%	17%	3%
1991	68	5	25	2
March 1993	70	4	24	2
December 1993	67	7	25	1
1995 ^a	62	12	24	2
1999	60	9	29	2
2000	62	5	31	2
2001	53	8	38	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 11-14, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^a Asked of half sample.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., **The Gallup Poll** [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/Guns.asp> [July 3, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.77

Attitudes toward laws covering the sale of firearms

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as they are now
National	53%	8%	38%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	39	12	48
Female	66	4	28
<u>Race</u>			
White	54	8	37
Nonwhite	51	9	40
Black	51	7	42
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	56	5	39
30 to 49 years	53	8	38
50 to 64 years	49	12	38
50 years and older	52	9	37
65 years and older	55	6	35
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	63	6	30
College graduate	54	13	33
Some college	56	7	36
High school graduate or less	47	9	42
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	56	8	36
\$50,000 to \$74,999	55	7	38
\$30,000 to \$49,999	49	10	40
\$20,000 to \$29,999	56	5	38
Under \$20,000	52	8	38
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	61	7	32
Suburban area	55	9	35
Rural area	42	8	48
<u>Region</u>			
East	61	8	30
Midwest	53	6	38
South	50	8	41
West	51	10	39
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	43	12	44
Democrat	61	5	33
Independent	55	8	36

Note: See Note, table 2.76. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.78

Attitudes toward a law restricting the possession of handguns

United States, selected years 1959-2000

Question: "Do you think there should or should not be a law that would ban the possession of handguns, except by the police and other authorized persons?"

	Should	Should not	No opinion
1959	60%	36%	4%
1965	49	44	7
1975	41	55	4
January 1980	31	65	4
December 1980	38	51	11
April 1981	39	58	3
June 1981	41	54	5
1987	42	50	8
1988	37	59	4
1990	41	55	4
1991	43	53	4
March 1993	42	54	4
December 1993	39	60	1
1999	34	64	2
2000	36	62	2

Note: See Note, table 2.20. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.79

Attitudes toward handgun registration

United States, selected years 1938 and 1982-2000

Question: "Would you favor or oppose the registration of all handguns?"

	Favor	Oppose	No opinion
1938 ^a	84%	16%	0%
1982	66	30	4
1985	70	25	5
1990	81	17	2
1991	80	17	3
1993	81	18	1
1999	79	19	2
2000	73	26	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,027 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Jan. 13-16, 2000. The Source did not provide data for years between 1938 and 1982. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponses to the question: "Do you think all owners of pistols and revolvers should be required to register with the government?"

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/indicators/indguns.asp> [Mar. 21, 2000]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.80

Attitudes toward gun control

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "In general, would you say you favor stricter gun control, or less strict gun control?"

	Stricter	Less strict	Neither ^a	Not sure
National	62%	22%	9%	6%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	51	31	11	5
Female	72	14	7	6
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>				
White	59	25	9	5
Black	78	14	5	2
Hispanic	68	17	7	6
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 24 years	65	22	6	5
25 to 29 years	55	26	15	4
30 to 39 years	58	26	8	8
40 to 49 years	61	24	6	6
50 to 64 years	72	18	6	4
65 years and older	57	17	17	6
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	66	20	12	1
College graduate	63	20	10	4
Some college	61	21	10	6
High school graduate or less	60	24	7	7
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	59	21	13	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	59	28	7	5
\$35,000 to \$49,999	63	21	9	5
\$25,000 to \$34,999	65	23	6	5
\$15,000 to \$24,999	66	21	9	3
Under \$15,000	69	18	3	8
<u>Region</u>				
East	69	16	9	5
Midwest	57	27	8	6
South	60	24	8	7
West	62	21	11	5
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	49	31	12	5
Democrat	75	15	5	4
Independent	61	16	13	7

Note: See Note, table 2.45. The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore, percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.81

Attitudes toward handgun control

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "In general, do you favor stricter or less strict laws relating to the control of handguns?"

	Stricter	Less strict	Neither ^a	Not sure
National	69%	18%	7%	5%
Sex				
Male	59	25	9	4
Female	77	10	5	6
Race, ethnicity				
White	67	19	7	4
Black	82	11	4	2
Hispanic	76	14	5	3
Age				
18 to 24 years	74	17	4	3
25 to 29 years	60	21	16	2
30 to 39 years	71	18	4	7
40 to 49 years	66	19	6	6
50 to 64 years	74	16	5	4
65 years and older	63	16	13	5
Education				
College post graduate	69	19	8	3
College graduate	68	16	9	4
Some college	65	19	11	3
High school graduate or less	70	18	4	6
Income				
\$75,000 and over	65	21	9	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	69	21	6	4
\$35,000 to \$49,999	68	19	8	2
\$25,000 to \$34,999	73	18	5	2
\$15,000 to \$24,999	73	16	6	4
Under \$15,000	78	8	4	7
Region				
East	75	13	9	3
Midwest	69	19	5	4
South	67	18	6	6
West	64	19	10	4
Politics				
Republican	55	27	11	4
Democrat	80	11	3	4
Independent	70	14	10	4

Note: See Note, table 2.45. The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore, percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aResponse volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.82

Attitudes toward a law prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or possession of semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles

United States, 1995, 1996, and 2000

Question: "Now, I am going to read several propositions that would prohibit and make illegal certain activities. First, would you vote. . . For or against a law which would make it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?"

	For	Against	No opinion
1995 ^a	68%	29%	3%
1996	57	42	1
2000	59	39	2

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,004 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 25-28, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

^aFor the 1995 survey, the question was: "Please tell me whether you would favor or oppose the following proposal which some people have made to reduce crime: a ban on the manufacture, sale and possession of certain semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?"

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline001025/topline001025.asp> [Mar. 27, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.83

Attitudes toward a law requiring a police permit prior to gun purchase

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1975-2000

Question: "Would you favor or oppose a law which would require a person to obtain a police permit before he or she could buy a gun?"

	1975		1976		1977		1980		1982		1984		1985		1987	
	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
National	74%	24%	72%	27%	72%	26%	69%	29%	72%	26%	70%	27%	72%	26%	70%	28%
Sex																
Male	66	32	64	35	64	35	63	36	68	31	62	37	65	34	62	36
Female	80	17	78	20	78	19	74	23	75	23	76	20	78	20	76	22
Race																
White	73	25	71	27	70	28	68	30	71	27	69	29	72	27	69	29
Black/other	81	15	74	24	81	17	81	15	78	19	79	18	76	22	74	23
Age																
18 to 20 years	74	26	78	22	69	31	71	29	77	23	71	24	71	29	69	29
21 to 29 years	79	19	71	27	72	26	73	27	76	24	73	25	74	25	76	23
30 to 49 years	70	27	73	25	70	29	70	29	72	26	70	29	71	28	68	30
50 years and older	73	24	70	29	74	24	67	29	69	29	70	26	72	26	69	29
Education^a																
College	76	22	71	27	74	25	70	29	76	23	74	25	75	24	74	25
High school graduate	74	24	72	27	70	28	69	29	71	27	68	30	71	28	67	31
Less than high school graduate	68	26	71	28	72	25	70	27	64	30	72	23	69	26	70	27
Income																
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																
Professional/business	73	24	74	25	76	23	70	28	75	23	71	27	75	24	74	24
Clerical/support	81	18	78	20	75	22	77	21	77	23	76	23	79	21	77	22
Manual/service	70	27	68	30	68	30	67	32	69	29	68	29	68	31	64	33
Farming/agriculture	60	33	56	44	66	31	53	47	36	60	48	48	43	57	48	50
Region																
Northeast	85	12	86	13	85	14	86	13	85	13	80	18	82	17	83	15
Midwest	76	22	72	27	67	31	71	27	73	24	70	25	73	25	68	31
South	66	30	63	35	69	28	64	34	62	36	66	31	67	32	66	31
West	70	29	68	30	68	31	60	38	69	30	67	32	71	29	67	31
Religion																
Protestant	70	27	67	31	67	30	64	34	68	30	66	31	68	30	67	31
Catholic	83	15	82	18	80	20	83	16	81	17	79	20	79	20	74	24
Jewish	96	4	89	11	89	9	88	12	89	5	93	7	94	6	85	10
None	71	28	68	28	73	26	71	28	72	28	78	22	74	26	77	20
Politics																
Republican	74	23	71	27	71	26	64	35	66	33	66	32	70	28	71	27
Democrat	77	20	74	25	73	26	74	25	75	24	75	23	74	25	70	29
Independent	70	28	69	29	71	28	68	29	72	26	70	28	72	27	70	28

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
74%	24%	78%	21%	79%	20%	81%	18%	81%	17%	78%	20%	80%	18%	82%	16%	80%	18%
66	33	69	30	72	27	74	25	73	26	70	29	73	25	76	22	71	27
79	17	85	13	84	14	86	12	87	11	84	14	86	12	86	12	86	11
74	24	77	21	77	21	81	18	80	18	77	22	80	19	80	18	78	20
75	23	81	18	86	12	84	15	84	15	84	14	84	13	88	10	86	11
73	24	66	34	91	9	70	30	83	17	85	15	69	29	82	16	79	21
73	26	81	17	83	15	82	18	83	17	78	20	78	21	82	16	81	16
72	26	74	25	76	23	82	17	82	17	77	22	83	15	82	16	80	17
75	20	81	17	78	19	80	17	80	18	79	19	80	19	81	16	79	18
76	22	80	19	81	18	85	14	84	15	79	19	83	16	84	14	79	19
74	24	75	23	77	20	79	20	79	19	76	22	79	19	79	19	80	18
66	27	82	17	73	22	70	24	76	20	78	18	76	20	80	17	82	16
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	84	15	79	20	82	16	83	15	77	22
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	83	16	74	25	82	17	81	18	79	19
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	84	15	80	19	81	18	83	15	79	18
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	79	20	80	18	78	19	84	14	83	14
77	21	82	17	78	20	89	11	84	15	79	20	82	17	83	14	79	19
78	19	80	16	84	15	84	15	89	10	85	14	83	16	84	14	86	12
71	26	72	26	77	22	75	23	75	23	74	24	80	18	79	19	78	19
24	65	73	27	56	39	72	28	72	24	56	38	53	43	80	20	61	36
84	13	90	10	85	15	84	15	90	9	85	15	84	13	88	10	85	13
76	22	80	19	78	20	81	17	82	16	78	21	84	14	79	18	78	20
69	28	72	26	77	20	78	21	75	22	77	21	78	20	79	18	82	16
68	28	74	24	75	24	85	15	82	17	74	25	77	21	82	17	73	23
72	26	75	23	76	22	78	20	79	19	75	23	81	17	80	18	79	18
77	20	84	16	84	14	84	15	84	14	84	15	83	15	85	12	82	15
100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	96	4	94	6	89	11	88	9	85	15
73	25	70	26	76	23	87	13	80	20	76	22	72	26	80	17	77	20
68	29	76	22	78	21	81	18	76	22	71	28	77	22	75	23	71	27
79	19	84	15	83	15	82	16	86	13	85	14	86	12	86	13	86	12
73	24	71	26	76	23	80	19	81	17	77	21	79	19	83	14	80	16

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Table 2.84

Attitudes toward legalization of the use of marijuana

United States, selected years 1969-2001

Question: "Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal, or not?"

	Yes, legal	No, illegal	No opinion
1969	12%	84%	4%
1972	15	81	4
1973	16	78	6
1977	28	66	6
1979	25	70	5
1980	25	70	5
1985	23	73	4
1995	25	73	2
2000	31	64	5
2001	34	62	4

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,017 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Aug. 3-5, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/drugs.asp> [July 8, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.85

Attitudes toward legalization of the use of marijuana

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1975-2000

Question: "Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal or not?"

	1975		1976		1978		1980		1983		1984		1986		1987	
	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not
National	20%	75%	28%	69%	30%	67%	25%	72%	20%	76%	23%	73%	18%	80%	16%	81%
Sex																
Male	25	69	32	64	34	63	30	67	25	71	28	68	23	75	19	78
Female	16	80	24	73	26	71	21	76	16	80	19	77	14	84	14	83
Race																
White	20	75	27	70	29	68	25	72	19	77	23	73	18	81	17	80
Black/other	22	71	33	60	38	59	27	71	28	69	22	75	19	77	12	84
Age																
18 to 20 years	34	56	57	39	51	48	45	52	33	67	36	62	16	82	21	74
21 to 29 years	40	54	49	48	49	49	42	56	29	68	34	62	27	71	25	70
30 to 49 years	18	79	25	72	29	69	27	71	21	76	27	68	20	79	19	79
50 years and older	9	86	16	81	16	80	13	84	13	83	9	87	12	87	8	90
Education^a																
College	35	59	40	56	42	55	35	61	23	74	29	66	22	75	21	75
High school graduate	16	79	26	70	27	70	23	75	21	76	21	75	17	82	13	84
Less than high school graduate	5	89	11	86	13	84	3	88	9	87	7	91	8	91	10	88
Income																
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation																
Professional/business	29	65	36	60	37	60	30	66	22	75	27	68	20	79	20	77
Clerical/support	20	76	26	72	27	71	23	75	18	79	22	72	16	82	11	83
Manual/service	17	79	25	71	28	69	23	74	22	75	20	77	19	79	16	81
Farming/agriculture	3	93	8	92	16	80	12	79	8	82	3	94	9	91	2	95
Region																
Northeast	26	70	32	64	33	62	27	70	20	76	24	74	20	80	18	78
Midwest	20	75	25	72	26	72	20	77	18	79	23	72	16	82	14	83
South	12	84	22	74	27	72	20	78	17	80	20	76	14	84	13	85
West	32	63	37	61	38	59	38	57	30	66	26	70	25	73	23	72
Religion																
Protestant	15	81	22	74	24	74	20	77	17	80	20	76	15	83	13	85
Catholic	21	73	32	64	31	64	26	71	17	78	20	76	18	80	16	81
Jewish	48	48	37	63	62	38	28	62	33	54	48	48	40	60	40	55
None	53	43	54	39	64	33	60	36	54	44	44	50	37	60	42	51
Politics																
Republican	12	86	20	78	19	80	18	80	15	82	17	80	13	86	13	84
Democrat	19	77	26	71	29	67	24	73	20	77	21	75	18	80	15	82
Independent	26	67	34	62	37	60	30	66	24	72	28	68	21	76	19	76

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not
17%	79%	16%	81%	16%	81%	18%	78%	22%	73%	23%	72%	26%	69%	28%	66%	32%	63%
21	74	20	76	19	79	23	74	27	68	27	69	30	66	34	60	36	58
14	82	14	84	14	82	14	81	19	76	20	75	22	72	22	71	28	66
17	80	18	80	17	80	18	78	22	73	23	73	26	69	28	65	33	61
18	75	10	85	13	82	16	76	20	75	24	71	22	70	24	70	25	68
16	74	19	75	22	78	21	79	24	69	50	50	38	60	34	64	41	56
24	70	21	76	19	76	25	73	25	70	24	71	30	66	34	59	41	54
19	78	19	78	19	79	22	74	27	67	26	70	28	67	30	63	34	60
12	86	11	86	12	85	10	86	15	81	17	78	19	75	21	73	24	70
20	75	20	77	18	79	21	74	25	70	26	69	27	68	32	62	33	62
16	80	15	82	16	81	16	81	19	76	22	74	24	71	23	70	31	62
12	88	9	88	12	87	8	88	19	80	10	84	22	72	22	72	27	67
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23	72	24	70	25	70	27	68	31	64
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	22	72	21	76	25	71	29	67	36	58
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27	69	20	77	27	68	32	61	34	60
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23	73	27	69	29	66	26	68	29	65
16	80	20	77	21	77	19	76	24	71	26	69	26	68	31	64	35	60
14	82	10	88	9	87	16	80	19	75	18	79	23	71	23	72	26	67
20	75	17	80	16	80	17	79	24	71	24	72	26	69	28	65	31	62
6	94	25	75	6	88	15	80	5	90	15	82	26	71	42	45	34	63
19	76	14	80	12	84	18	77	24	70	19	75	26	67	28	65	34	58
18	78	14	84	16	81	13	83	19	77	19	76	23	74	27	66	32	63
12	86	14	83	12	84	15	81	19	77	22	74	24	70	22	72	26	68
23	72	26	72	29	71	30	66	28	64	32	64	31	64	37	58	39	57
13	84	13	86	12	85	16	80	18	78	19	77	19	74	21	73	26	69
16	80	16	80	15	84	15	82	21	75	21	74	29	68	27	66	28	64
52	44	35	65	33	60	36	59	30	60	42	49	37	54	56	44	48	48
38	55	40	49	44	51	40	52	47	45	46	49	42	54	48	44	53	42
14	84	14	85	11	86	16	80	14	84	15	82	20	77	19	77	26	70
18	78	16	81	18	79	16	80	28	68	24	73	24	69	29	65	31	63
20	75	19	76	18	78	21	75	23	69	29	64	30	64	31	62	35	58

Table 2.86

Attitudes toward treating the possession of small amounts of marijuana as a criminal offense

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you think the possession of small amounts of marijuana should or should not be treated as a criminal offense?"

	Should	Should not	Don't know
National	49%	46%	5%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	43	53	4
Female	55	39	6
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	49	46	5
Nonwhite	52	44	4
Black	52	43	5
Hispanic	51	48	1
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	49	47	4
30 to 49 years	49	48	3
50 to 64 years	46	48	6
65 years and older	56	37	7
<u>Education</u>			
College graduate	39	55	6
Some college	49	48	3
High school graduate	54	39	7
Less than high school graduate	53	42	5
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	38	59	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	48	47	5
\$30,000 to \$49,999	48	47	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	62	36	2
Under \$20,000	55	39	6
<u>Community</u>			
Large city	46	49	5
Suburb	44	52	4
Small city/town	48	46	6
Rural area	62	33	5
<u>Region</u>			
East	53	43	4
Midwest	51	42	7
South	52	43	5
West	40	56	4
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	55	40	5
Democrat	48	48	4
Independent	44	51	5

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 21, 22. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.87

Attitudes toward doctors prescribing marijuana for medical purposes

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Regardless of what you think about the personal non-medical use of marijuana, do you think doctors should or should not be allowed to prescribe marijuana for medical purposes to treat their patients?"

	Should	Should not	Don't know
National	73%	21%	6%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	75	19	6
Female	70	24	6
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	74	20	6
Nonwhite	69	28	3
Black	66	30	4
Hispanic	67	32	1
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	77	20	3
30 to 49 years	76	21	3
50 to 64 years	73	21	6
65 years and older	61	25	14
<u>Education</u>			
College graduate	79	16	5
Some college	75	21	4
High school graduate	71	23	6
Less than high school graduate	64	28	8
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	83	13	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	78	18	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	73	23	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	69	24	7
Under \$20,000	66	28	6
<u>Community</u>			
Large city	74	21	5
Suburb	77	16	7
Small city/town	73	22	5
Rural area	66	29	5
<u>Region</u>			
East	73	22	5
Midwest	72	23	5
South	72	22	6
West	75	18	7
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	67	26	7
Democrat	75	20	5
Independent	79	17	4

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 21, 22. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.88

High school seniors reporting that they worry about selected social problems

United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Of all the problems facing the nation today, how often do you worry about each of the following?"

(Percent responding "sometimes" or "often")

	Class of 1989 (N=2,849)	Class of 1990 (N=2,595)	Class of 1991 (N=2,595)	Class of 1992 (N=2,736)	Class of 1993 (N=2,807)	Class of 1994 (N=2,664)	Class of 1995 (N=2,646)	Class of 1996 (N=2,502)	Class of 1997 (N=2,651)	Class of 1998 (N=2,621)	Class of 1999 (N=2,348)	Class of 2000 (N=2,204)	Class of 2001 (N=2,222)
Crime and violence	86.3%	88.8%	88.1%	91.6%	90.8%	92.7%	90.2%	90.1%	86.5%	84.4%	81.8%	83.5%	81.0%
Drug abuse	79.5	82.6	79.5	77.8	75.5	76.7	72.6	71.0	71.1	65.3	62.7	60.9	61.1
Hunger and poverty	64.1	65.9	66.4	68.1	71.1	65.7	62.3	62.6	61.1	55.5	54.5	54.4	51.3
Chance of nuclear war	52.4	45.1	41.5	33.4	28.8	27.9	20.0	21.6	20.4	29.0	32.1	23.7	23.9
Economic problems	57.6	56.8	63.9	70.6	71.8	62.6	55.7	57.9	51.5	47.6	44.8	45.2	47.0
Pollution	55.9	67.2	72.1	71.9	72.8	66.5	63.6	62.9	61.6	57.1	49.8	53.3	49.6
Race relations	53.6	57.1	59.4	68.7	75.4	71.6	68.9	70.7	64.7	56.0	55.6	51.2	52.6
Energy shortages	27.9	32.6	38.2	35.2	29.8	23.8	17.9	19.2	19.4	18.3	20.8	22.0	31.2
Using open land for housing or industry	30.8	33.9	33.8	34.7	32.9	32.7	28.9	32.6	32.7	30.8	27.5	32.6	30.6
Population growth	29.6	33.0	30.6	35.2	38.9	35.4	34.9	37.4	38.2	34.8	31.7	36.3	36.7
Urban decay	19.8	20.4	21.7	25.8	25.3	25.6	23.0	25.1	22.1	18.8	17.2	20.5	20.3

Note: These data are from a series of nationwide surveys of high school seniors conducted by the Monitoring the Future Project at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research from 1975 through 2001. The survey design is a multistage random sample of high school seniors in public and private schools throughout the continental United States. All percentages reported are based on weighted cases; the Ns that are shown in the tables refer to the number of weighted cases.

Response categories were "never," "seldom," "sometimes," and "often." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see [Appendix 6](#).

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, pp. 180, 181; *1991*, pp. 188, 189; *1993*, pp. 190, 191; *1995*, pp. 191, 192 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1990*, pp. 186, 187; *1992*, pp. 189, 190; *1994*, pp. 189, 190 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.89

High school seniors reporting that they worry about crime and violence

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Of all the problems facing the nation today, how often do you worry about. . . crime and violence?"

(Percent responding "sometimes" or "often")

	Class of 1989 (N=2,849)	Class of 1990 (N=2,595)	Class of 1991 (N=2,595)	Class of 1992 (N=2,736)	Class of 1993 (N=2,807)	Class of 1994 (N=2,664)	Class of 1995 (N=2,646)	Class of 1996 (N=2,502)	Class of 1997 (N=2,651)	Class of 1998 (N=2,621)	Class of 1999 (N=2,348)	Class of 2000 (N=2,204)	Class of 2001 (N=2,222)
Total	86.3%	88.8%	88.1%	91.6%	90.8%	92.7%	90.2%	90.1%	86.5%	84.4%	81.8%	83.5%	81.0%
<u>Sex</u>													
Male	80.9	84.8	82.6	87.6	85.7	88.4	85.8	84.8	79.4	76.5	74.4	76.0	71.7
Female	92.2	93.4	93.6	95.7	95.6	96.5	95.1	95.4	93.7	91.7	89.5	90.2	90.1
<u>Race</u>													
White	84.6	88.1	86.6	90.5	89.4	92.9	90.0	89.5	84.5	83.5	80.8	82.6	78.7
Black	91.8	92.7	94.5	96.9	95.1	90.7	93.0	92.9	90.4	85.7	84.8	91.1	90.2
<u>Region</u>													
Northeast	83.0	87.7	86.0	92.0	90.6	91.0	91.7	89.4	83.2	83.1	85.4	82.2	79.8
North Central	83.0	87.0	88.8	87.6	90.2	93.2	86.7	87.4	85.1	80.7	80.0	84.6	79.4
South	89.4	90.4	88.4	93.8	91.2	93.3	91.3	91.1	88.7	87.0	81.1	85.8	83.6
West	88.2	89.4	89.0	93.0	91.4	92.4	92.2	93.4	88.2	85.4	82.0	79.3	80.7
<u>College plans</u>													
Yes	88.0	89.8	89.9	93.1	92.4	94.1	92.6	91.6	88.4	85.3	84.5	85.0	83.5
No	82.8	88.0	83.9	87.7	85.8	89.4	84.0	86.2	80.7	82.2	72.3	77.9	72.7
<u>Lifetime illicit drug use</u>													
None	88.8	90.6	90.7	92.9	91.9	94.1	91.8	90.5	89.1	86.8	84.3	85.4	82.3
Marijuana only	86.6	87.1	85.4	89.6	91.1	91.5	90.9	91.9	85.7	82.3	82.8	85.8	85.2
Few pills	85.2	87.6	86.6	89.4	90.7	95.6	92.6	91.0	88.3	84.6	84.3	79.1	83.1
More pills	81.7	85.7	84.8	90.6	87.4	89.5	84.1	87.4	81.0	83.3	75.6	79.9	73.8

Note: See Note, table 2.88. Data are given for those who identify themselves as white or Caucasian and those who identify themselves as black or African-American because these are the two largest racial/ethnic subgroups in the population. Data are not given for the other ethnic categories because each of these groups comprises a small portion of the sample in any given year (Source, 1992, p. 9). "College plans" distinguishes those seniors who expect to graduate from a 4-year college from those who expect to receive some college training or none. The four drug use categories are based on an index of seriousness of involvement. The "pills" category indicates use of any of a number of drugs including some that usually are not taken in pill form. Respondents indicating the use of one or more of a number of illicit drugs but who had not used any one class of them on three or more occasions and did not use heroin at all fall into the "few pills" category. Respondents indicating such use on three or more occasions and who did not use heroin at all fall into the "more pills" category. Respondents reporting heroin use were included in a separate category that is not presented here due to the small number of respondents indicating such use. (Source, 1995, pp. 8, 9, 14.)

Response categories were "never," "seldom," "sometimes," and "often." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 180; *1991*, p. 188; *1993*, p. 190; *1995*, p. 191 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1990*, p. 186; *1992*, p. 189; *1994*, p. 189 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.90

High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of selected institutions

United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. . . . How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by . . .?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)	Class of 2001 (N=2,201)
Large corporations	45.1%	38.4%	36.3%	31.8%	31.5%	34.6%	37.9%	36.3%	35.3%	43.0%	42.1%	43.0%	39.3%
Major labor unions	35.5	31.7	31.3	28.9	27.2	29.2	28.0	30.8	29.2	32.8	34.5	32.0	33.1
The Nation's colleges and universities	73.7	73.8	70.2	67.2	61.1	67.7	66.6	70.5	65.7	70.1	72.5	71.0	71.0
The Nation's public schools	37.9	36.1	33.6	32.5	29.0	27.2	31.8	30.6	30.0	32.2	34.1	34.7	34.5
Churches and religious organizations	47.3	47.0	49.2	50.3	46.9	50.3	50.2	49.0	48.3	52.6	52.4	50.1	52.1
The national news media (TV, magazines, news services)	55.3	54.7	51.1	47.9	40.5	37.9	33.1	34.5	34.8	36.1	39.8	37.6	38.8
The President and his administration	36.4	41.8	56.8	23.8	24.9	22.1	19.7	24.0	26.8	34.1	33.3	53.6	32.8
Congress--that is, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives	31.6	32.9	38.3	15.9	16.6	18.8	20.6	18.1	21.7	28.7	29.9	31.4	33.0
The U.S. Supreme Court	42.7	40.9	44.1	35.7	31.0	31.0	29.8	30.4	30.5	36.6	38.9	38.2	37.1
All the courts and the justice system in general	31.7	27.8	31.2	23.4	21.1	19.3	20.6	21.2	22.4	25.7	29.4	28.9	30.7
The police and other law enforcement agencies	33.6	34.3	28.0	26.9	27.1	29.3	28.7	27.6	28.7	33.0	33.7	33.6	33.2
The U.S. military	60.1	58.8	80.6	62.2	57.0	54.3	54.8	55.6	52.9	56.7	59.4	55.5	55.7

Note: See Note, table 2.88. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, pp. 132-134; *1991*, pp. 136-138; *1993*, pp. 138-140; *1995*, pp. 139-141 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1990*, pp. 135-137; *1992*, pp. 137-139; *1994*, pp. 137-139 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.91

High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the police and other law enforcement agencies

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. . . . How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by . . . the police and other law enforcement agencies?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)	Class of 2001 (N=2,201)
Total	33.6%	34.3%	28.0%	26.9%	27.1%	29.3%	28.7%	27.6%	28.7%	33.0%	33.7%	33.6%	33.2%
<u>Sex</u>													
Male	33.5	33.4	29.3	27.4	30.1	30.2	29.1	28.6	30.3	33.9	36.3	35.7	33.8
Female	34.2	35.0	27.2	26.8	24.3	28.4	28.1	26.5	27.7	32.1	31.5	32.7	33.5
<u>Race</u>													
White	35.5	35.4	31.5	30.0	31.1	32.2	31.5	30.7	32.1	35.7	35.2	38.0	37.2
Black	28.3	22.4	11.0	12.4	9.2	16.9	16.8	14.6	16.3	22.5	25.4	16.6	20.0
<u>Region</u>													
Northeast	33.4	28.3	26.3	26.6	28.0	29.5	25.5	30.7	32.7	33.4	29.9	36.1	35.8
North Central	33.8	35.2	35.7	27.7	28.5	29.9	29.9	24.5	25.4	32.8	34.3	33.2	35.7
South	35.2	36.0	22.1	24.5	25.4	29.3	27.3	26.5	28.9	32.4	34.6	31.7	32.9
West	30.7	36.3	30.0	30.7	27.8	28.4	32.9	31.1	28.6	34.2	35.0	35.3	27.7
<u>College plans</u>													
Yes	34.2	34.0	28.5	25.8	26.9	29.5	28.9	27.8	29.3	33.0	34.5	34.1	34.9
No	34.0	33.8	28.7	31.0	27.3	29.7	29.4	28.1	26.6	32.2	32.4	33.5	29.0
<u>Lifetime illicit drug use</u>													
None	35.1	37.7	31.1	29.5	29.7	32.9	31.7	29.4	33.0	39.3	38.1	39.5	37.1
Marijuana only	33.1	33.6	27.0	23.5	24.0	25.8	26.3	25.5	27.7	30.2	33.4	29.6	32.0
Few pills	28.0	31.5	29.4	23.3	25.2	26.7	24.2	36.3	26.1	29.1	34.2	32.3	34.2
More pills	32.8	26.6	17.5	21.3	22.2	22.9	25.8	20.0	21.6	25.9	24.9	28.8	26.8

Note: See Notes, tables 2.88 and 2.89. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 134; *1991*, p. 138; *1993*, p. 140; *1995*, p. 141 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1990*, p. 137; *1992*, p. 139; *1994*, p. 139 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.92

High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the U.S. Supreme Court

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. . . . How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by . . . the U.S. Supreme Court?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)	Class of 2001 (N=2,201)
Total	42.7%	40.9%	44.1%	35.7%	31.0%	31.0%	29.8%	30.4%	30.5%	36.6%	38.9%	38.2%	37.1%
Sex													
Male	45.8	44.6	46.2	39.7	34.5	32.6	35.0	35.6	33.3	39.7	43.9	41.9	40.3
Female	39.5	37.2	41.7	32.1	27.8	29.6	24.8	25.7	28.3	33.5	34.9	36.0	34.7
Race													
White	43.7	42.0	47.1	38.4	33.3	32.9	32.5	31.3	33.5	38.1	39.9	40.1	41.1
Black	37.0	36.9	29.9	27.8	23.8	22.9	21.9	27.5	22.3	31.2	32.8	31.0	26.1
Region													
Northeast	38.9	38.4	40.1	31.9	31.5	31.5	26.6	32.7	30.2	31.4	40.4	36.7	35.7
North Central	41.1	42.1	47.9	38.3	33.4	32.2	32.8	27.4	27.8	36.5	42.9	40.1	40.8
South	46.7	41.6	43.9	35.9	28.9	30.3	30.4	34.0	34.0	38.3	35.6	37.2	37.6
West	40.9	40.4	42.8	34.8	31.0	30.2	27.5	25.0	28.7	39.0	38.3	39.2	32.2
College plans													
Yes	44.5	42.4	47.5	37.8	34.0	33.6	30.9	31.6	32.1	38.1	40.2	40.9	39.5
No	39.7	36.7	36.3	31.6	23.3	24.7	27.1	25.9	26.7	31.7	35.7	30.7	30.4
Lifetime illicit drug use													
None	44.2	44.1	46.8	39.3	33.4	32.6	30.7	30.5	31.7	38.8	40.1	39.9	38.0
Marijuana only	41.6	38.6	41.6	31.3	29.6	30.0	29.6	33.1	30.7	33.6	39.4	38.0	36.8
Few pills	35.5	36.0	41.9	30.7	27.6	29.1	34.5	32.5	32.3	34.2	45.3	38.9	37.6
More pills	45.7	36.7	37.2	27.7	27.7	29.3	24.5	26.4	28.6	38.8	31.7	35.0	37.2

Note: See Notes, tables 2.88 and 2.89. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 133; *1991*, p. 137; *1993*, p. 139; *1995*, p. 140 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1990*, p. 136; *1992*, p. 138; *1994*, p. 138 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.93

High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the courts and the justice system in general

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. . . . How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by . . . all the courts and the justice system in general?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)	Class of 2001 (N=2,201)
Total	31.7%	27.8%	31.2%	23.4%	21.1%	19.3%	20.6%	21.2%	22.4%	25.7%	29.4%	28.9%	30.7%
<u>Sex</u>													
Male	33.2	30.9	33.8	25.3	24.0	20.5	22.3	25.7	23.9	27.0	32.1	32.4	31.5
Female	30.1	24.9	28.8	21.5	18.7	18.2	18.6	16.8	20.9	24.4	27.2	26.3	30.4
<u>Race</u>													
White	32.2	27.3	32.5	24.6	22.4	20.5	21.4	21.5	23.5	26.1	29.7	29.5	33.1
Black	26.8	26.4	23.5	18.6	13.6	12.0	17.3	20.8	17.6	23.5	25.5	22.9	22.3
<u>Region</u>													
Northeast	27.2	22.8	31.0	18.1	19.7	18.5	17.6	20.4	23.5	23.3	30.5	29.3	31.1
North Central	33.7	27.2	34.4	24.5	22.6	19.0	23.2	19.5	21.5	26.3	32.3	26.7	32.7
South	33.4	31.1	28.0	24.5	20.8	19.5	20.0	25.2	23.5	26.5	27.3	29.4	30.6
West	29.9	28.8	32.7	24.8	20.6	20.4	20.6	16.3	20.0	26.1	28.0	30.3	28.0
<u>College plans</u>													
Yes	32.3	27.6	32.7	24.0	21.8	20.6	20.4	20.6	22.8	26.1	30.3	30.4	32.4
No	31.2	27.8	27.6	22.8	17.6	16.4	21.0	23.2	21.6	22.9	28.8	25.2	26.2
<u>Lifetime illicit drug use</u>													
None	31.6	29.9	34.3	25.8	23.0	21.0	20.9	19.4	24.1	28.5	31.0	31.6	31.5
Marijuana only	33.2	25.7	29.3	22.0	19.6	18.3	19.5	23.4	21.8	25.0	32.4	28.2	29.6
Few pills	28.2	25.4	27.0	15.4	18.5	16.8	25.2	29.1	19.7	21.0	33.7	32.1	33.9
More pills	33.6	24.2	25.2	19.6	16.9	17.9	18.4	19.7	20.7	25.8	20.4	24.7	29.1

Note: See Notes, tables 2.88 and 2.89. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 133; *1991*, p. 137; *1993*, p. 139; *1995*, p. 140 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1990*, p. 136; *1992*, p. 138; *1994*, p. 138 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.94

Students' perceptions of the harmfulness of alcohol and drug useBy grade level of respondent, 2000-2001^a

Question: "Do you feel that using. . . is harmful to your health?"

	No harm	Some harm	Harmful	Very harmful
Beer	10.0%	32.8%	28.1%	29.1%
Grades 6 to 8	7.9	27.7	29.6	34.9
Grades 9 to 12	12.0	37.9	26.7	23.3
12th grade	12.1	39.8	26.9	21.2
Wine coolers	21.7	37.8	20.7	19.8
Grades 6 to 8	17.9	34.7	23.5	23.9
Grades 9 to 12	25.4	40.9	17.8	15.8
12th grade	23.4	42.3	18.7	15.6
Liquor	7.4	22.8	32.0	37.9
Grades 6 to 8	5.5	17.4	32.2	45.0
Grades 9 to 12	9.2	28.1	31.7	30.9
12th grade	9.4	30.2	31.8	28.5
Marijuana	9.6	12.1	16.7	61.6
Grades 6 to 8	5.9	6.1	12.2	75.7
Grades 9 to 12	13.2	18.1	21.2	47.6
12th grade	14.0	21.6	23.9	40.6
Cocaine	3.0	2.2	9.5	85.3
Grades 6 to 8	2.8	1.8	8.0	87.4
Grades 9 to 12	3.1	2.6	11.0	83.3
12th grade	3.4	2.6	10.6	83.4
Inhalants	4.3	9.7	21.4	64.6
Grades 6 to 8	4.6	10.8	22.3	62.3
Grades 9 to 12	4.1	8.5	20.5	66.9
12th grade	3.8	6.3	18.7	71.2
Hallucinogens	3.6	4.6	15.6	76.1
Grades 6 to 8	3.4	4.3	16.1	76.2
Grades 9 to 12	3.8	4.9	15.1	76.1
12th grade	4.1	5.0	13.1	77.8
Heroin	2.9	2.4	10.4	84.3
Grades 6 to 8	2.9	2.7	11.1	83.3
Grades 9 to 12	2.9	2.1	9.7	85.3
12th grade	3.1	2.0	8.8	86.0
Steroids	4.2	11.1	26.7	58.0
Grades 6 to 8	4.5	11.6	26.5	57.4
Grades 9 to 12	3.8	10.7	26.8	58.7
12th grade	3.8	9.0	25.2	62.0

Note: These data are from a survey of 6th through 12th grade students conducted between August 2000 and June 2001 by PRIDE Surveys. Participating schools are sent the PRIDE questionnaire with explicit instructions for administering the anonymous, self-report survey. Schools that administer the PRIDE questionnaire do so voluntarily or in compliance with a school district or State request. For the 2000-2001 academic year, survey results are based on students from 23 States. The following States participated in the 2000-2001 PRIDE survey: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. To prevent any one State from having a disproportionate influence on the summary results, random samples of students were drawn from those States where disproportionately large numbers of students were surveyed. Therefore, no State comprises more than 10% of the sample. The results presented are based on a sample consisting of 75,804 students drawn from the total number of students who completed the PRIDE questionnaire.

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: PRIDE Surveys, "2000-01 National Summary, Grades 6 through 12," Bowling Green, KY: PRIDE Surveys, 2001. (Mimeographed.) P. 67; p. 68, Tables 5.36 and 5.37; p. 69, Tables 5.40 and 5.41; p. 70. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.95

High school seniors' perceptions of the harmfulness of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they...?"

(Percent responding "great risk"^a)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Class of 1989 (N=2,796)	Class of 1990 (N=2,553)	Class of 1991 (N=2,549)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,759)	Class of 1994 (N=2,591)	Class of 1995 (N=2,603)	Class of 1996 (N=2,449)	Class of 1997 (N=2,579)	Class of 1998 (N=2,564)	Class of 1999 (N=2,306)	Class of 2000 (N=2,130)	Class of 2001 (N=2,173)
Try marijuana once or twice	23.6%	23.1%	27.1%	24.5%	21.9%	19.5%	16.3%	15.6%	14.9%	16.7%	15.7%	13.7%	15.3%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	36.5	36.9	40.6	39.6	35.6	30.1	25.6	25.9	24.7	24.4	23.9	23.4	23.5
Smoke marijuana regularly	77.5	77.8	78.6	76.5	72.5	65.0	60.8	59.9	58.1	58.5	57.4	58.3	57.4
Try LSD once or twice	46.0	44.7	46.6	42.3	39.5	38.8	36.4	36.2	34.7	37.4	34.9	34.3	33.2
Take LSD regularly	84.3	84.5	84.3	81.8	79.4	79.1	78.1	77.8	76.6	76.5	76.1	75.9	74.1
Try PCP once or twice	56.6	55.2	51.7	54.8	50.8	51.5	49.1	51.0	48.8	46.8	44.8	45.0	46.2
Try MDMA (ecstasy) once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.8	34.5	35.0	37.9	45.7
Try cocaine once or twice	54.9	59.4	59.4	56.8	57.6	57.2	53.7	54.2	53.6	54.6	52.1	51.1	50.7
Take cocaine occasionally	71.8	73.9	75.5	75.1	73.3	73.7	70.8	72.1	72.4	70.1	70.1	69.5	69.9
Take cocaine regularly	90.2	91.1	90.4	90.2	90.1	89.3	87.9	88.3	87.1	86.3	85.8	86.2	84.1
Try crack once or twice	62.9	64.3	60.6	62.4	57.6	58.4	54.6	56.0	54.0	52.2	48.2	48.4	49.4
Take crack occasionally	75.3	80.4	76.5	76.3	73.9	73.8	72.8	71.4	70.3	68.7	67.3	65.8	65.4
Take crack regularly	85.6	91.6	90.1	89.3	87.5	89.6	88.6	88.0	86.2	85.3	85.4	85.3	85.8
Try cocaine powder once or twice	53.8	53.9	53.6	57.1	53.2	55.4	52.0	53.2	51.4	48.5	46.1	47.0	49.0
Take cocaine powder occasionally	65.8	71.1	69.8	70.8	68.6	70.6	69.1	68.8	67.7	65.4	64.2	64.7	63.2
Take cocaine powder regularly	83.9	90.2	88.9	88.4	87.0	88.6	87.8	86.8	86.0	84.1	84.6	85.5	84.4
Try heroin once or twice	53.8	55.4	55.2	50.9	50.7	52.8	50.9	52.5	56.7	57.8	56.0	54.2	55.6
Take heroin occasionally	75.5	76.6	74.9	74.2	72.0	72.1	71.0	74.8	76.3	76.9	77.3	74.6	75.9
Take heroin regularly	89.5	90.2	89.6	89.2	88.3	88.0	87.2	89.5	88.9	89.1	89.9	89.2	88.3
Try amphetamines once or twice	32.8	32.2	36.3	32.6	31.3	31.4	28.8	30.8	31.0	35.3	32.2	32.6	34.7
Take amphetamines regularly	71.2	71.2	74.1	72.4	69.9	67.0	65.9	66.8	66.0	67.7	66.4	66.3	67.1
Try crystal methamphetamine (ice) once or twice	NA	NA	61.6	61.9	57.5	58.3	54.4	55.3	54.4	52.7	51.2	51.3	52.7
Try barbiturates once or twice	32.2	32.4	35.1	32.2	29.2	29.9	26.3	29.1	26.9	29.0	26.1	25.0	25.7
Take barbiturates regularly	70.5	70.2	70.5	70.2	66.1	63.3	61.6	60.4	56.8	56.3	54.1	52.3	50.3
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	6.0	8.3	9.1	8.6	8.2	7.6	5.9	7.3	6.7	8.0	8.3	6.4	8.7
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	28.5	31.3	32.7	30.6	28.2	27.0	24.8	25.1	24.8	24.3	21.8	21.7	23.4
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	69.8	70.9	69.5	70.5	67.8	66.2	62.8	65.6	63.0	62.1	61.1	59.9	60.7
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	44.0	47.1	48.6	49.0	48.3	46.5	45.2	49.5	43.0	42.8	43.1	42.7	43.6
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	67.2	68.2	69.4	69.2	69.5	67.6	65.6	68.2	68.7	70.8	70.8	73.1	73.3
Take steroids	63.8	69.9	65.6	70.7	69.1	66.1	66.4	67.6	67.2	68.1	62.1	57.9	58.9

Note: These data are from a series of nationwide surveys of high school seniors conducted by the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research for the National Institute on Drug Abuse from 1975 through 2001. The survey design is a multistage random sample of high school seniors in public and private schools. Depending on the survey year, approximately 65% of the schools initially invited to participate agreed to do so. Completed questionnaires were obtained from approximately 83% of all sampled students in participating schools each year. Beginning in 1991, eighth and tenth grade students also were included in the survey. All percentages reported are based on weighted cases; the Ns that are shown in the tables also refer to the number of weighted cases. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see [Appendix 6](#).

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) no risk, (2) slight risk, (3) moderate risk, (4) great risk, and (5) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 299. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.96

Eighth and tenth graders' perceptions of the harmfulness of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1991, 1995, and 1999-2001

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they . . . ?"

(Percent responding "great risk"^a)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Eighth graders					Tenth graders				
	1991 (N=17,400)	1995 (N=17,501)	1999 (N=16,700)	2000 (N=16,700)	2001 (N=16,200)	1991 (N=14,700)	1995 (N=17,006)	1999 (N=13,600)	2000 (N=14,300)	2001 (N=14,000)
Try marijuana once or twice	40.4%	28.9%	28.0%	29.0%	27.7%	30.0%	21.5%	19.2%	18.5%	17.9%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	57.9	45.9	45.7	47.4	46.3	48.6	35.4	33.5	32.4	31.2
Smoke marijuana regularly	83.8	73.0	73.3	74.8	72.2	82.1	67.9	65.9	64.7	62.8
Try inhalants once or twice ^b	35.9	36.4	40.8	41.2	45.6	37.8	41.6	48.2	46.6	49.9
Take inhalants regularly ^b	65.6	64.8	68.8	69.9	71.6	69.8	71.8	76.3	75.0	76.4
Try LSD once or twice ^c	NA	36.7	34.1	34.0	31.6	NA	44.7	45.0	43.0	41.3
Take LSD regularly ^c	NA	64.4	58.8	57.5	52.9	NA	75.5	73.9	72.0	68.8
Try crack once or twice ^b	62.8	50.8	48.7	48.5	48.6	70.4	60.9	57.8	56.1	57.1
Take crack occasionally ^b	82.2	72.1	70.6	70.1	70.0	87.4	81.2	79.1	76.9	77.3
Try cocaine powder once or twice ^b	55.5	44.9	43.3	43.3	43.9	59.1	53.5	51.6	48.8	50.6
Take cocaine powder occasionally ^b	77.0	66.4	65.4	65.5	65.8	82.2	75.6	73.6	70.9	72.3
Try heroin once or twice without using a needle ^c	NA	60.1	63.0	62.0	61.1	NA	70.7	73.7	71.7	72.0
Try heroin occasionally without using a needle ^c	NA	76.8	78.9	78.6	78.5	NA	85.1	86.5	85.2	85.4
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	11.0	11.6	11.6	11.9	12.2	9.0	9.3	10.5	9.6	9.8
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	31.8	30.5	29.7	30.4	30.0	36.1	31.7	32.9	32.3	31.5
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	59.1	54.1	55.3	55.9	56.1	54.7	52.0	51.9	51.0	50.7
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day ^d	51.6	49.8	54.8	58.8	57.1	60.3	57.0	62.7	65.9	64.7

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1992 through 1994, and 1996 through 1998 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) no risk, (2) slight risk, (3) moderate risk, (4) great risk, and (5) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

^bData for 1999-2001 are based on two-thirds of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

^cData for 1995 are based on one of two forms; N is one-half of N indicated. Data for 1999-2001 are based on one-third of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

^dData for 1999-2001 are based on two-thirds of N indicated due to changes in the questionnaire form.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 297. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.97

Young adults' perceptions of the harmfulness of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking

By type of drug, frequency of use, and age group, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they. . .?"

(Percent responding "great risk"^a)

	Age groups												
	19 to 22 years old												
Type of drug and frequency of use	1989 (N=565)	1990 (N=552)	1991 (N=533)	1992 (N=527)	1993 (N=480)	1994 (N=490)	1995 (N=500)	1996 (N=469)	1997 (N=465)	1998 (N=431)	1999 (N=447)	2000 (N=424)	2001 (N=430)
Try marijuana once or twice	16.9%	17.8%	19.1%	19.7%	19.4%	18.8%	13.3%	16.9%	14.8%	13.4%	12.5%	14.3%	11.9%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	29.1	30.1	30.2	29.5	30.3	31.3	25.5	25.6	22.0	22.0	19.8	25.8	18.0
Smoke marijuana regularly	74.9	73.0	75.0	69.3	69.2	65.0	62.1	61.3	60.6	53.4	55.2	58.0	49.6
Try LSD once or twice	49.5	49.3	48.0	45.6	42.4	42.3	40.3	44.4	40.1	38.7	38.1	37.9	37.5
Take LSD regularly	85.5	85.8	86.6	87.0	81.3	81.0	80.5	82.4	83.6	78.6	82.2	81.6	79.2
Try cocaine once or twice	51.5	58.1	58.7	56.1	60.5	63.8	57.7	61.9	55.5	55.4	52.8	56.7	48.9
Take cocaine occasionally	72.6	74.6	72.6	74.9	75.4	78.0	73.4	76.6	76.1	71.2	68.0	72.4	70.0
Take cocaine regularly	89.1	93.9	93.5	92.9	91.7	92.2	91.5	92.2	91.6	88.7	88.5	90.7	85.1
Try crack once or twice	68.5	69.4	66.9	65.4	63.5	70.1	61.9	65.2	62.0	59.3	56.1	52.9	54.1
Take crack occasionally	81.8	82.3	82.7	81.9	83.6	84.3	78.8	83.5	79.1	79.1	75.5	74.9	72.3
Take crack regularly	94.1	94.9	95.6	93.4	96.2	96.0	94.2	94.7	93.3	92.8	92.3	91.1	89.6
Try heroin once or twice	59.6	58.3	59.9	59.8	58.9	60.8	58.9	61.0	63.9	60.7	63.5	63.2	64.0
Take heroin occasionally	79.8	80.8	80.2	81.6	78.8	79.0	77.9	82.1	84.7	80.4	82.5	82.0	83.6
Take heroin regularly	90.8	91.2	91.5	92.2	89.2	91.2	89.9	94.0	93.7	92.4	92.8	94.0	91.3
Try amphetamines once or twice	28.9	35.6	32.8	34.5	33.3	36.3	32.9	36.8	30.1	31.7	33.7	35.0	34.2
Take amphetamines regularly	71.3	74.0	77.1	73.5	73.5	71.6	72.2	75.8	72.3	71.9	72.4	73.4	71.1
Try crystal methamphetamine (ice)	NA	57.8	58.6	57.7	57.5	61.4	58.9	61.1	56.4	55.8	50.6	49.2	52.5
Try barbiturates once or twice	30.5	36.4	33.5	33.5	33.4	35.0	30.5	34.1	31.4	27.7	28.5	30.3	30.0
Take barbiturates regularly	71.7	75.5	75.5	73.6	71.1	69.4	66.4	70.7	69.5	65.1	64.7	64.6	61.8
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	5.9	6.1	5.4	5.8	6.6	6.5	4.5	3.3	3.2	4.2	5.7	5.4	4.8
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	28.1	30.1	29.1	30.2	28.0	27.5	24.0	23.0	24.2	22.1	23.9	22.1	19.6
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	75.7	76.1	75.5	71.8	72.1	70.3	72.5	68.5	71.4	70.4	69.9	69.9	64.5
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	42.4	40.6	40.8	41.8	42.4	41.9	39.9	40.7	36.6	42.0	37.2	38.9	37.2
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	73.4	72.5	77.9	72.6	76.0	71.2	71.6	73.8	76.3	77.2	75.7	77.1	76.6

Note: See Note, table 2.95. "Young adults" includes high school graduates 1 to 10 years beyond high school. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1980 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 2, College Students and Young Adults, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) no risk, (2) slight risk, (3) moderate risk, (4) great risk, and (5) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

23 to 26 years old									27 to 30 years old						
1993 (N=503)	1994 (N=465)	1995 (N=445)	1996 (N=438)	1997 (N=420)	1998 (N=413)	1999 (N=418)	2000 (N=400)	2001 (N=392)	1995 (N=448)	1996 (N=422)	1997 (N=434)	1998 (N=416)	1999 (N=400)	2000 (N=377)	2001 (N=384)
13.0%	15.0%	15.8%	18.5%	15.1%	16.7%	16.4%	13.1%	13.0%	16.1%	16.2%	16.1%	16.4%	16.1%	14.4%	17.3%
24.0	25.5	27.7	27.3	26.4	26.8	26.4	24.9	20.5	28.3	28.1	26.0	25.8	25.3	25.8	25.0
64.1	63.2	64.2	62.7	64.0	62.7	60.1	60.3	55.1	69.2	67.3	65.0	63.6	66.1	64.0	61.7
49.0	46.8	45.8	46.1	46.6	45.7	49.3	44.9	48.5	52.5	50.1	52.0	52.0	49.9	46.4	46.7
85.3	87.5	86.3	84.7	85.6	82.1	85.4	84.1	86.0	88.4	87.0	87.2	90.5	87.8	85.3	86.9
54.1	56.0	58.7	57.2	63.1	60.2	62.6	63.1	62.4	56.4	53.6	54.6	60.5	61.7	59.9	60.9
72.8	70.3	76.0	71.3	76.5	74.2	77.8	76.2	74.2	70.0	67.8	73.8	73.2	75.4	76.5	78.1
91.9	92.6	93.3	90.6	93.2	92.9	92.7	92.9	91.9	91.3	91.6	92.7	93.0	92.4	92.3	94.5
64.2	69.3	64.8	68.6	64.7	67.3	64.6	63.2	59.8	66.4	66.7	68.5	66.5	65.0	62.9	69.3
81.6	83.2	81.4	85.9	80.8	84.2	81.6	84.0	80.1	81.1	81.3	85.3	81.7	79.8	81.6	84.4
93.4	94.9	95.5	96.1	91.4	95.6	94.4	95.6	93.4	94.0	94.3	96.0	94.3	95.2	93.5	96.8
65.0	63.3	64.1	63.5	67.3	67.3	68.0	70.7	71.9	66.4	66.4	67.9	69.7	70.1	67.4	68.2
82.1	80.8	85.3	82.4	86.5	83.9	88.5	86.6	88.4	83.1	83.8	85.8	86.6	87.1	86.5	86.4
91.6	93.0	93.5	92.7	94.4	93.4	93.7	94.8	95.9	92.4	92.1	93.8	95.0	93.7	94.2	94.5
32.6	32.9	34.3	34.9	37.8	40.9	41.8	39.9	41.6	36.0	36.2	34.5	37.6	36.3	39.4	38.5
76.2	73.6	80.5	78.5	79.1	77.5	78.7	79.0	77.7	77.7	75.6	77.4	81.1	82.6	80.8	79.9
52.0	61.0	57.8	64.1	60.7	58.2	61.3	60.1	59.2	58.5	59.1	59.8	59.9	61.0	59.7	66.4
32.8	34.0	34.8	35.8	37.3	40.3	39.4	37.0	38.5	36.6	37.2	35.7	36.7	35.2	36.3	40.9
75.0	74.3	77.6	77.1	75.2	73.9	75.1	73.8	73.1	77.7	74.1	77.1	79.9	80.7	75.5	78.2
3.2	4.5	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.4	6.6	3.5	5.5	6.7	4.7	4.0	6.2	5.9	4.7	5.5
25.9	26.2	26.1	22.0	20.2	21.0	26.0	21.7	23.5	27.2	24.0	24.8	20.8	25.3	22.0	22.7
76.7	77.5	75.2	72.0	75.1	69.3	72.8	71.7	75.8	82.2	76.1	79.3	75.7	75.1	77.4	72.8
36.2	40.2	37.9	39.1	37.4	41.1	40.2	34.9	39.0	44.6	41.5	40.0	40.2	41.9	37.9	41.6
78.4	76.4	76.0	76.0	77.6	76.5	80.9	79.7	83.9	75.6	73.0	80.3	80.9	80.7	78.4	82.7

Table 2.98

Respondents' perceptions of the harmfulness of selected drug use behaviors

By age group, United States, 1999 and 2000

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they do each of the following activities?"

(Percent responding "great risk")

Risk behavior	Total		Age group					
			12 to 17 years		18 to 25 years		26 years and older	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
<u>Marijuana</u>								
Smoke once a month	44.4%	44.3%	37.2%	37.7%	28.7%	29.8%	48.1%	47.8%
Smoke once or twice a week	56.1	56.4	56.5	56.0	40.9	41.9	58.6	58.9
<u>Cocaine</u>								
Use once a month	76.0	76.0	55.3	55.4	68.5	69.0	80.1	80.1
Use once or twice a week	90.6	90.8	82.4	82.1	88.1	88.1	92.2	92.4
<u>Heroin</u>								
Try once or twice	84.0	84.4	62.0	62.3	78.7	79.5	87.9	88.3
Use once or twice a week	94.2	94.1	84.4	84.1	93.1	93.0	95.7	95.6
<u>LSD</u>								
Try once or twice	76.6	76.8	56.3	57.2	64.0	65.2	81.4	81.5
Use once or twice a week	89.4	89.4	78.6	77.7	84.2	84.3	91.8	91.9
<u>Alcohol</u>								
Four or five drinks nearly every day	69.6	70.6	63.6	63.7	63.0	63.8	71.5	72.7
Five or more drinks once or twice a week	45.1	47.1	42.0	43.2	37.0	37.5	46.9	49.3
<u>Cigarettes</u>								
Smoke one or more packs per day	66.7	69.3	60.7	64.1	61.7	64.7	68.3	70.8

Note: These data are from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Households were randomly sampled from all households in the United States and interviews conducted throughout the year. In 1999, the sample consisted of 66,706 persons; in 2000, the sample consisted of 71,764 persons.

Answer alternatives to the question were "no risk," "slight risk," "moderate risk," and "great risk." For survey methodology, [see Appendix 7](#).

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Summary of Findings from the 2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse* (Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2001), p. 198. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.99

High school seniors' perceptions of availability of drugs

By type of drug, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?"

(Percent responding "fairly easy" or "very easy"^a)

Type of drug	Class of 1989 (N=2,806)	Class of 1990 (N=2,549)	Class of 1991 (N=2,476)	Class of 1992 (N=2,586)	Class of 1993 (N=2,670)	Class of 1994 (N=2,526)	Class of 1995 (N=2,552)	Class of 1996 (N=2,340)	Class of 1997 (N=2,517)	Class of 1998 (N=2,520)	Class of 1999 (N=2,215)	Class of 2000 (N=2,095)	Class of 2001 (N=1,850)
Marijuana	84.3%	84.4%	83.3%	82.7%	83.0%	85.5%	88.5%	88.7%	89.6%	90.4%	88.9%	88.5%	88.5%
Amyl and butyl nitrites	26.8	24.4	22.7	25.9	25.9	26.7	26.0	23.9	23.8	25.1	21.4	23.3	22.5
LSD	38.3	40.7	39.5	44.5	49.2	50.8	53.8	51.3	50.7	48.8	44.7	46.9	44.7
PCP	28.9	27.7	27.6	31.7	31.7	31.4	31.0	30.5	30.0	30.7	26.7	28.8	27.2
Other psychedelic ^b	28.2	28.3	28.0	29.9	33.5	33.8	35.8	33.9	33.9	35.1	29.5	34.5	48.5
MDMA (ecstasy)	21.7	22.0	22.1	24.2	28.1	31.2	34.2	36.9	38.8	38.2	40.1	51.4	61.5
Cocaine powder	53.7	49.0	46.0	48.0	45.4	43.7	43.8	44.4	43.3	45.7	43.7	44.6	40.7
Crack	47.0	42.4	39.9	43.5	43.6	40.5	41.9	40.7	40.6	43.8	41.1	42.6	40.2
Cocaine	58.7	54.5	51.0	52.7	48.5	46.6	47.7	48.1	48.5	51.3	47.6	47.8	46.2
Heroin	31.4	31.9	30.6	34.9	33.7	34.1	35.1	32.2	33.8	35.6	32.1	33.5	32.3
Other narcotic (including methadone)	38.3	38.1	34.6	37.1	37.5	38.0	39.8	40.0	38.9	42.8	40.8	43.9	40.5
Amphetamines	64.3	59.7	57.3	58.8	61.5	62.0	62.8	59.4	59.8	60.8	58.1	57.1	57.1
Crystal methamphetamine (ice)	NA	24.1	24.3	26.0	26.6	25.6	27.0	26.9	27.6	29.8	27.6	27.8	28.3
Barbiturates	48.4	45.9	42.4	44.0	44.5	43.3	42.3	41.4	40.0	40.7	37.9	37.4	35.7
Tranquilizers	45.3	44.7	40.8	40.9	41.1	39.2	37.8	36.0	35.4	36.2	32.7	33.8	33.1
Steroids	NA	NA	46.7	46.8	44.8	42.9	45.5	40.3	41.7	44.5	44.6	44.8	44.4

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 350. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) probably impossible, (2) very difficult, (3) fairly difficult, (4) fairly easy, and (5) very easy.

^b In 2001, the question text was changed from "other psychedelic" to "other hallucinogen" and "shrooms" was added to the list of examples. These changes likely explain the increase in the 2001 result.

Table 2.100

Eighth and tenth graders' perceptions of availability of drugs

By type of drug, United States, 1992, 1995, and 1999-2001

Question: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?"

(Percent responding "fairly easy" or "very easy"^a)

Type of drug	Eighth graders					Tenth graders				
	1992 (N=8,355)	1995 (N=15,496)	1999 (N=15,397)	2000 (N=15,180)	2001 (N=14,804)	1992 (N=7,014)	1995 (N=16,209)	1999 (N=13,112)	2000 (N=13,690)	2001 (N=13,518)
Marijuana	42.3%	52.4%	48.4%	47.0%	48.1%	65.2%	78.1%	78.2%	77.7%	77.4%
LSD	21.5	23.5	18.3	17.0	17.6	33.6	39.8	34.3	32.9	31.2
PCP ^b	18.0	19.0	17.1	16.0	15.4	23.7	24.7	24.5	25.0	21.6
Crack	25.6	28.7	25.9	24.9	24.4	33.7	34.6	36.5	34.0	30.6
Cocaine powder	25.7	27.8	25.0	23.9	23.9	35.0	35.3	36.7	34.5	31.0
Heroin	19.7	21.1	17.5	16.5	16.9	24.3	24.6	23.7	22.3	20.1
Other narcotics ^b	19.8	20.3	16.2	15.6	15.0	26.9	27.8	26.6	27.2	25.8
Amphetamines	32.2	33.4	25.9	25.5	26.2	43.4	47.7	41.3	40.9	40.6
Crystal methamphetamine (ice) ^b	16.0	16.0	14.7	14.9	13.9	18.8	20.7	21.8	22.8	19.9
Barbiturates	27.4	26.5	20.8	19.7	20.7	38.0	38.8	33.2	32.4	32.8
Tranquilizers	22.9	21.3	17.3	16.2	17.8	31.6	30.6	26.8	27.6	28.5
Alcohol	76.2	74.9	72.3	70.6	70.6	88.6	89.7	88.2	87.7	87.7
Steroids	24.0	23.8	22.6	22.3	23.1	37.6	34.8	35.9	35.4	33.1

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1993, 1994, and 1996 through 1998 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) probably impossible, (2) very difficult, (3) fairly difficult, (4) fairly easy, (5) very easy, and (6) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

^b Beginning in 1995, data are based on half the questionnaire forms; N is one-half of N indicated.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 349. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.101

High school seniors disapproving of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Do you disapprove of people (who are 18 or older) doing each of the following?"

(Percent responding "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove"^a)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Class of 1989 (N=2,799)	Class of 1990 (N=2,566)	Class of 1991 (N=2,547)	Class of 1992 (N=2,645)	Class of 1993 (N=2,723)	Class of 1994 (N=2,588)	Class of 1995 (N=2,603)	Class of 1996 (N=2,399)	Class of 1997 (N=2,601)	Class of 1998 (N=2,545)	Class of 1999 (N=2,310)	Class of 2000 (N=2,150)	Class of 2001 (N=2,144)
Try marijuana once or twice	64.6%	67.8%	68.7%	69.9%	63.3%	57.6%	56.7%	52.5%	51.0%	51.6%	48.8%	52.5%	49.1%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	77.2	80.5	79.4	79.7	75.5	68.9	66.7	62.9	63.2	64.4	62.5	65.8	63.2
Smoke marijuana regularly	89.8	91.0	89.3	90.1	87.6	82.3	81.9	80.0	78.8	81.2	78.6	79.7	79.3
Try LSD once or twice	89.7	89.8	90.1	88.1	85.9	82.5	81.1	79.6	80.5	82.1	83.0	82.4	81.8
Take LSD regularly	96.4	96.3	96.4	95.5	95.8	94.3	92.5	93.2	92.9	93.5	94.3	94.2	94.0
Try MDMA (ecstasy) once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	82.2	82.5	82.1	81.0	79.5
Try cocaine once or twice	90.5	91.5	93.6	93.0	92.7	91.6	90.3	90.0	88.0	89.5	89.1	88.2	88.1
Take cocaine regularly	96.4	96.7	97.3	96.9	97.5	96.6	96.1	95.6	96.0	95.6	94.9	95.5	94.9
Try crack once or twice	NA	92.3	92.1	93.1	89.9	89.5	91.4	87.4	87.0	86.7	87.6	87.5	87.0
Take crack occasionally	NA	94.3	94.2	95.0	92.8	92.8	94.0	91.2	91.3	90.9	92.3	91.9	91.6
Take crack regularly	NA	94.9	95.0	95.5	93.4	93.1	94.1	93.0	92.3	91.9	93.2	92.8	92.2
Try cocaine powder once or twice	NA	87.9	88.0	89.4	86.6	87.1	88.3	83.1	83.0	83.1	84.3	84.1	83.3
Take cocaine powder occasionally	NA	92.1	93.0	93.4	91.2	91.0	92.7	89.7	89.3	88.7	90.0	90.3	89.8
Take cocaine powder regularly	NA	93.7	94.4	94.3	93.0	92.5	93.8	92.9	91.5	91.1	92.3	92.6	92.5
Try heroin once or twice	95.4	95.1	96.0	94.9	94.4	93.2	92.8	92.1	92.3	93.7	93.5	93.0	93.1
Take heroin occasionally	97.2	96.7	97.3	96.8	97.0	96.2	95.7	95.0	95.4	96.1	95.7	96.0	95.4
Take heroin regularly	97.4	97.5	97.8	97.2	97.5	97.1	96.4	96.3	96.4	96.6	96.4	96.6	96.2
Try amphetamines once or twice	83.3	85.3	86.5	86.9	84.2	81.3	82.2	79.9	81.3	82.5	81.9	82.1	82.3
Take amphetamines regularly	94.2	95.5	96.0	95.6	96.0	94.1	94.3	93.5	94.3	94.0	93.7	94.1	93.4
Try barbiturates once or twice	89.3	90.5	90.6	90.3	89.7	87.5	87.3	84.9	86.4	86.0	86.6	85.9	85.9
Take barbiturates regularly	95.3	96.4	97.1	96.5	97.0	96.1	95.2	94.8	95.3	94.6	94.7	95.2	94.5
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	27.3	29.4	29.8	33.0	30.1	28.4	27.3	26.5	26.1	24.5	24.6	25.2	26.6
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	76.5	77.9	76.5	75.9	77.8	73.1	73.3	70.8	70.0	69.4	67.2	70.0	69.2
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	91.6	91.9	90.6	90.8	90.6	89.8	88.8	89.4	88.6	86.7	86.9	88.4	86.4
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	66.5	68.9	67.4	70.7	70.1	65.1	66.7	64.7	65.0	63.8	62.7	65.2	62.9
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	72.4	72.8	71.4	73.5	70.6	69.8	68.2	67.2	67.1	68.8	69.5	70.1	71.6
Take steroids	NA	90.8	90.5	92.1	92.1	91.9	91.0	91.7	91.4	90.8	88.9	88.8	86.4

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1977 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

^aAnswer alternatives were: (1) don't disapprove, (2) disapprove, and (3) strongly disapprove.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 302. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.102

Eighth and tenth graders disapproving of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1991, 1995, and 1999-2001

Question: "Do you disapprove of people who . . .?"

(Percent responding "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove"^a)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Eighth graders					Tenth graders				
	1991 (N=17,400)	1995 (N=17,600)	1999 (N=16,700)	2000 (N=16,700)	2001 (N=16,200)	1991 (N=14,800)	1995 (N=17,000)	1999 (N=13,600)	2000 (N=14,300)	2001 (N=14,000)
Try marijuana once or twice	84.6%	70.7%	70.7%	72.5%	72.4%	74.6%	59.8%	56.2%	54.9%	54.8%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	89.5	79.7	79.3	80.6	80.6	83.7	70.0	68.2	67.2	66.2
Smoke marijuana regularly	92.1	85.1	84.5	85.3	84.5	90.4	81.1	79.8	79.1	78.0
Try inhalants once or twice ^b	84.9	81.8	85.2	85.4	86.6	85.2	84.5	88.4	87.5	87.8
Take inhalants regularly ^b	90.6	88.8	90.3	90.2	90.5	91.0	90.9	92.4	91.8	91.3
Try LSD once or twice ^c	NA	71.6	69.4	66.7	64.6	NA	77.9	77.8	77.0	75.4
Take LSD regularly ^c	NA	75.8	72.5	69.3	67.0	NA	84.8	84.3	82.1	80.8
Try crack once or twice ^b	91.7	85.9	86.0	85.4	86.0	92.5	88.7	87.8	87.1	86.9
Take crack occasionally ^b	93.3	89.8	89.9	88.8	89.8	94.3	91.7	91.5	90.9	90.6
Try cocaine powder once or twice ^b	91.2	85.3	85.2	84.8	85.6	90.8	86.8	86.0	84.8	85.3
Take cocaine powder occasionally ^b	93.1	89.7	89.9	88.8	89.6	94.0	91.4	90.7	89.9	90.2
Try heroin once or twice without using a needle ^c	NA	85.8	88.0	87.2	87.2	NA	89.7	90.1	90.1	89.1
Take heroin occasionally without using a needle ^c	NA	88.5	90.2	88.9	88.9	NA	91.6	91.8	92.3	90.8
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	51.7	48.0	48.3	48.7	49.8	37.6	36.1	35.1	33.4	34.7
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	82.2	75.9	77.0	77.8	77.4	81.7	75.4	75.4	73.8	73.8
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	85.2	80.7	80.3	81.2	81.6	76.7	72.2	69.9	68.2	69.2
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day ^c	82.8	78.6	81.4	81.9	83.5	79.4	73.2	76.1	76.7	78.2

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1992 through 1994, and 1996 through 1998 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. The Ns are approximate. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) don't disapprove, (2) disapprove, (3) strongly disapprove, and (6) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

^b Data for 1999-2001 are based on two-thirds of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

^c Data for 1995 are based on one of two questionnaire forms; N is one-half of N indicated. In 1999-2001, N is one-third of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 300. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.103

High school seniors favoring prohibition of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking

By type of drug and place of use, United States, 1989-2001

Question: "Do you think that people (who are 18 or older) should be prohibited by law from doing each of the following?"

(Percent responding "yes"^a)

	Class of 1989 (N=2,813)	Class of 1990 (N=2,571)	Class of 1991 (N=2,512)	Class of 1992 (N=2,671)	Class of 1993 (N=2,759)	Class of 1994 (N=2,603)	Class of 1995 (N=2,578)	Class of 1996 (N=2,422)	Class of 1997 (N=2,587)	Class of 1998 (N=2,563)	Class of 1999 (N=2,283)	Class of 2000 (N=2,146)	Class of 2001 (N=2,161)
Smoke marijuana in private	51.5%	56.0%	51.6%	52.4%	48.0%	42.9%	44.0%	40.4%	38.8%	39.8%	39.3%	38.8%	39.1%
Smoke marijuana in public places	80.0	81.9	79.8	78.3	77.3	72.5	72.9	70.0	69.4	72.2	71.5	72.1	68.3
Take LSD in private	71.6	72.9	68.1	67.2	63.5	63.2	64.3	62.0	61.2	64.7	62.6	62.9	63.1
Take LSD in public places	84.4	84.9	83.9	82.2	82.1	80.5	81.5	79.2	80.3	82.7	80.4	80.4	78.8
Take heroin in private	74.4	76.4	72.8	71.4	70.7	70.1	72.2	70.8	70.6	73.9	72.9	71.1	70.6
Take heroin in public places	85.2	86.7	85.4	83.3	84.5	82.9	84.8	82.3	84.3	86.4	84.2	83.9	81.7
Take amphetamines or barbiturates in private	61.1	64.5	59.7	60.5	57.4	55.7	57.5	54.6	54.6	58.5	55.1	56.0	55.9
Take amphetamines or barbiturates in public places	79.2	81.6	79.7	78.5	78.0	76.4	77.6	74.3	76.5	77.4	76.1	75.4	74.5
Get drunk in private	20.2	23.0	22.0	24.4	22.1	21.0	21.6	21.4	20.5	20.2	20.5	21.5	22.6
Get drunk in public places	52.6	54.6	54.3	54.1	53.6	54.3	54.5	52.8	51.7	51.2	52.8	51.9	50.6
Smoke cigarettes in certain specified public places	44.5	47.3	44.9	47.6	45.9	47.3	45.1	43.4	41.3	41.1	43.2	45.1	44.2

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 303. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^a Answer alternatives were: (1) no, (2) not sure, and (3) yes.

Table 2.104

High school seniors' attitudes toward the legalization of marijuana use

United States, 1989-2001

Question: "There has been a great deal of public debate about whether marijuana use should be legal. Which of the following policies would you favor?"

(Percent favoring policy)

Policy	Class of 1989 (N=2,812)	Class of 1990 (N=2,570)	Class of 1991 (N=2,515)	Class of 1992 (N=2,672)	Class of 1993 (N=2,768)	Class of 1994 (N=2,597)	Class of 1995 (N=2,574)	Class of 1996 (N=2,426)	Class of 1997 (N=2,585)	Class of 1998 (N=2,566)	Class of 1999 (N=2,285)	Class of 2000 (N=2,143)	Class of 2001 (N=2,160)
Using marijuana should be entirely legal	16.6%	15.9%	18.0%	18.7%	22.8%	26.8%	30.4%	31.2%	30.8%	27.9%	27.3%	31.2%	29.2%
It should be a minor violation like a parking ticket but not a crime	18.9	17.4	19.2	18.0	18.7	19.0	18.0	21.0	20.7	24.3	23.7	23.4	24.5
It should be a crime	50.0	53.2	48.6	47.6	43.4	39.4	37.3	33.8	34.0	32.6	32.5	30.2	31.1
Don't know	14.6	13.6	14.3	15.7	15.1	14.8	14.4	13.9	14.5	15.2	16.5	15.2	15.3

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 304. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.105

High school seniors' attitudes toward legalization of the sale of marijuana if the use of marijuana were legal

United States, 1989-2001

Question: "If it were legal for people to USE marijuana, should it also be legal to SELL marijuana?"

	Class of 1989 (N=2,812)	Class of 1990 (N=2,570)	Class of 1991 (N=2,515)	Class of 1992 (N=2,672)	Class of 1993 (N=2,768)	Class of 1994 (N=2,597)	Class of 1995 (N=2,574)	Class of 1996 (N=2,426)	Class of 1997 (N=2,585)	Class of 1998 (N=2,566)	Class of 1999 (N=2,285)	Class of 2000 (N=2,143)	Class of 2001 (N=2,160)
No	38.8%	40.1%	36.8%	37.8%	36.7%	33.1%	32.3%	29.4%	29.1%	30.2%	30.2%	27.4%	30.0%
Yes, but only to adults	37.9	38.8	41.4	39.5	40.7	41.7	43.4	46.7	44.8	42.4	42.9	45.5	43.6
Yes, to anyone	9.2	9.6	9.4	9.6	10.1	11.6	11.7	11.1	12.5	11.9	12.1	13.4	12.0
Don't know	14.1	11.6	12.5	13.1	12.5	13.7	12.6	12.8	13.7	15.5	14.7	13.6	14.3

Note: See Note, table 2.95. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1988 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 6.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002), p. 304. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.106

College freshmen reporting that marijuana should be legalized

By sex, United States, 1968-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Marijuana should be legalized		
	Total	Male	Female
1968	19.4%	21.4%	16.9%
1969	25.6	28.1	22.4
1970	38.4	41.0	35.2
1971	38.7	41.7	35.0
1972	46.6	49.6	43.0
1973	48.2	50.9	45.2
1974	46.7	49.7	43.4
1975	47.2	50.7	43.3
1976	48.9	51.6	46.1
1977	52.9	56.6	49.2
1978	49.5	52.1	47.1
1979	46.0	48.6	43.6
1980	39.3	42.1	36.6
1981	34.0	36.3	31.9
1982	29.4	32.5	26.4
1983	25.7	28.4	23.1
1984	22.9	25.8	20.3
1985	21.8	24.8	18.9
1986	21.3	25.0	18.0
1987	19.3	23.1	15.9
1988	19.3	22.8	16.4
1989	16.7	20.1	13.7
1990	18.6	21.7	16.0
1991	20.9	24.2	18.0
1992	23.0	26.6	19.9
1993	28.2	32.1	25.0
1994	32.1	36.4	28.3
1995	33.8	38.3	30.0
1996	33.0	37.2	29.6
1997	35.2	39.0	32.0
1998	32.4	38.6	27.2
1999	33.9	39.2	29.4
2000	34.2	40.4	29.1
2001	36.5	42.9	31.4

Note: These figures are taken from the Cooperative Institutional Research Program Freshman Survey, which is conducted annually by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at the University of California, Los Angeles. The survey covers a wide range of student characteristics including demographic and background information, high school activities, college plans, values, attitudes, and beliefs. Each fall, the HERI surveys approximately 300,000 full-time students entering the freshman classes from a nationally representative sample of colleges and universities in the United States. Both 2-year and 4-year institutions are included in the data for 1968-99. Beginning in 2000, the survey includes only 4-year colleges and universities (baccalaureate institutions). Inclusion of two-year institutions was discontinued due to declining participation rates and increased need for data adjustment.

From 1966 to 1970, approximately 15% of the Nation's institutions of higher education were selected by sampling procedures to participate in the program. Beginning in 1971, a stratified sample was selected from all institutions that have entering freshman classes and that respond to the U.S. Department of Education's Higher Education General Information Survey. An institution is considered eligible if it was operating at the time of the survey and if it had a full-time freshman class of at least 25 students. The data presented are weighted estimates of all first-time, full-time students entering higher education institutions in the fall of each year. Published reports on trends over 30 years or reports on individual annual survey results can be obtained by writing to the Higher Education Research Institute, 3005 Moore Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521.

Response categories were "agree strongly," "agree somewhat," "disagree somewhat," and "disagree strongly." The text or format of the questions or responses may differ slightly in different years.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.107

College freshmen reporting that abortion should be legal

By sex, United States, 1977-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Abortion should be legal		
	Total	Male	Female
1977	55.7%	55.8%	55.6%
1978	56.7	56.5	56.9
1979	53.3	53.0	53.6
1980	53.6	53.3	53.8
1981	53.9	53.0	54.7
1982	54.8	53.7	55.9
1983	54.8	54.7	54.8
1984	53.8	53.3	54.2
1985	54.9	54.5	55.3
1986	58.6	58.3	59.0
1987	58.7	58.7	58.7
1988	57.0	56.8	57.2
1989	64.7	63.6	65.5
1990	64.9	65.0	64.8
1991	63.0	63.0	63.0
1992	64.1	63.9	64.2
1993	62.4	61.8	62.8
1994	59.7	59.0	60.3
1995	58.4	57.8	58.9
1996	56.3	55.7	56.7
1997	53.5	53.7	53.3
1998	50.9	52.5	49.5
1999	52.7	53.8	51.7
2000	53.9	54.5	53.5
2001	55.0	55.1	54.8

Note: See Note, table 2.106.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.108

College freshmen reporting there is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals

By sex, United States, 1969-83 and 1987-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals		
	Total	Male	Female
1969	54.3%	60.0%	46.8%
1970	51.6	57.5	44.5
1971	48.1	53.9	41.1
1972	50.3	56.4	43.0
1973	50.1	55.7	43.7
1974	51.5	56.9	45.6
1975	53.5	59.1	47.1
1976	59.7	64.8	54.3
1977	64.3	69.2	59.2
1978	65.4	70.3	60.6
1979	62.4	68.1	57.0
1980	65.9	70.5	61.6
1981	69.1	74.2	64.2
1982	69.8	74.3	65.5
1983	68.8	72.5	65.2
1987	68.3	71.4	65.5
1988	69.1	72.7	66.0
1989	68.5	71.9	65.5
1990	66.3	69.8	63.2
1991	65.3	67.6	63.4
1992	66.7	68.8	64.8
1993	67.6	70.1	65.5
1994	73.0	75.0	71.3
1995	73.3	74.4	72.5
1996	71.6	73.0	70.4
1997	70.2	70.6	69.9
1998	72.8	74.3	71.5
1999	71.8	73.1	70.7
2000	66.5	67.8	65.5
2001	64.4	65.8	63.2

Note: See Note, table 2.106.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.109

College freshmen reporting that the death penalty should be abolished

By sex, United States, 1969, 1970, 1971, and 1978-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	The death penalty should be abolished		
	Total	Male	Female
1969	53.9%	50.0%	59.0%
1970	56.3	53.4	59.8
1971	57.6	53.2	62.8
1978	32.6	26.8	38.2
1979	34.5	28.0	40.7
1980	34.5	28.0	40.5
1981	30.1	24.7	35.2
1982	28.4	23.1	33.5
1983	28.9	23.9	33.7
1984	26.0	22.2	29.6
1985	26.6	22.6	30.2
1986	25.4	21.4	29.1
1987	23.8	20.4	27.0
1988	23.0	19.6	26.0
1989	21.3	18.4	23.8
1990	21.5	18.5	24.1
1991	21.2	18.8	23.2
1992	21.0	18.1	23.5
1993	22.1	19.2	24.5
1994	20.1	17.7	22.1
1995	20.9	18.1	23.2
1996	22.2	19.0	24.8
1997	23.7	20.9	26.1
1998	22.8	19.5	25.6
1999	24.7	21.8	27.1
2000	31.2	27.4	34.3
2001	32.2	28.2	35.5

Note: See Note, table 2.106.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.110

College freshmen reporting that homosexual relationships should be legally prohibited

By sex, United States, 1976-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships		
	Total	Male	Female
1976	47.0%	55.0%	38.6%
1977	48.6	56.7	40.3
1978	46.3	54.4	38.5
1979	47.3	56.2	39.0
1980	48.9	58.1	40.3
1981	48.6	57.8	39.9
1982	47.2	57.0	37.6
1983	49.0	58.3	39.9
1984	47.8	57.9	38.4
1985	47.9	58.3	38.3
1986	52.2	62.5	42.8
1987	53.1	62.5	44.6
1988	49.0	59.7	39.9
1989	45.4	57.3	35.1
1990	44.4	56.0	34.5
1991	42.2	53.4	32.5
1992	37.6	48.6	28.3
1993	36.2	47.7	26.6
1994	33.9	45.4	24.0
1995	30.6	42.4	20.7
1996	33.5	45.2	24.1
1997	33.9	45.5	24.1
1998	33.3	43.4	24.8
1999	30.3	40.6	21.7
2000	27.2	36.0	20.1
2001	24.9	33.5	18.0

Note: See Note, table 2.106.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.111

College freshmen reporting that drug testing by employers should be allowed

By sex, United States, 1988-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Employers should be allowed to require drug testing of employees or job applicants		
	Total	Male	Female
1988	71.0%	69.8%	72.0%
1989	77.8	76.5	78.9
1990	80.4	78.5	82.1
1991	80.8	79.1	82.3
1992	82.4	80.5	83.9
1993	79.6	77.4	81.5
1994	80.6	78.3	82.5
1995	77.3	74.1	80.0
1996	79.2	76.4	81.4
1997	78.4	75.0	81.2
1998	78.5	74.6	81.8
1999	77.8	74.4	80.6
2000	76.5	73.3	79.2
2001	75.0	71.6	77.7

Note: See Note, table 2.106.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.112

College freshmen reporting that the Federal Government should do more to control the sale of handguns

By sex, United States, 1989-2001

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	The Federal Government should do more to control the sale of handguns		
	Total	Male	Female
1989	78.2%	67.2%	87.6%
1990	77.1	65.5	87.0
1991	78.1	66.8	87.8
1992	80.4	69.4	89.6
1993	81.8	71.8	90.2
1994	79.9	69.2	89.2
1995	80.8	70.2	89.7
1996	81.6	71.6	89.5
1997	81.3	70.8	90.1
1998	82.5	72.7	90.8
1999	82.3	72.6	90.5
2000	82.0	72.6	89.6
2001	80.8	71.6	88.1

Note: See Note, table 2.106.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69; **2001**, pp. 32, 52, 72 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Page 180 intentionally blank.

Table 2.113

Attitudes toward doctor-assisted suicideUnited States, selected years 1982-2001^a

Question: "Do you think that the law should allow doctors to comply with the wishes of a dying patient in severe distress who asks to have his or her life ended, or not?"

	Yes, should allow	No, should not allow	Not sure
1982	53%	34%	8%
1987	62	32	4
1993	73	24	3
1997	68	27	4
2001	65	29	6

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Dec. 14-19, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Jan. 9, 2002), p. 3. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.114

Attitudes toward U.S. Supreme Court ruling regarding doctor-assisted suicideUnited States, 1997 and 2001^a

Question: "In 1997, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that individuals do not have a constitutional right to doctor-assisted suicide. Do you agree or disagree with this decision?"

	Agree	Disagree	Not sure
1997	32%	65%	3%
2001	32	63	4

Note: See Note, table 2.113. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aPercents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Jan. 9, 2002), p. 3. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.115

Attitudes toward laws regulating the distribution of pornography

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1986-2000

Question: "Which of these statements comes closest to your feelings about pornography laws:
 There should be laws against the distribution of pornography whatever the age; there
 should be laws against the distribution of pornography to persons under 18; or there
 should be no laws forbidding the distribution of pornography?"^a

	1986			1987			1988			1989			1990		
	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distribution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distribution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distribution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distribution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distribution
	What-ever the age	To persons under 18		What-ever the age	To persons under 18		What-ever the age	To persons under 18		What-ever the age	To persons under 18		What-ever the age	To persons under 18	
National	43%	53%	4%	40%	55%	4%	43%	50%	5%	40%	54%	5%	41%	52%	6%
Sex															
Male	30	64	4	26	67	5	33	59	6	29	63	7	33	59	6
Female	52	44	4	50	46	3	51	43	4	49	46	3	47	47	5
Race															
White	43	53	3	41	54	4	45	49	5	41	54	4	42	51	5
Black/other	38	53	6	33	61	3	35	58	6	38	52	7	34	57	7
Age															
18 to 20 years	21	74	5	26	74	0	23	71	6	36	56	8	17	65	13
21 to 29 years	26	71	2	25	70	5	28	67	4	27	68	3	29	67	3
30 to 49 years	35	60	4	32	63	4	38	57	4	30	65	4	36	60	4
50 years and older	40	55	4	36	60	4	32	61	7	59	33	6	53	36	8
Education^a															
College	38	58	4	32	63	4	37	58	4	34	59	5	36	57	7
High school graduate	42	54	4	43	53	3	46	47	5	43	53	4	44	51	5
Less than high school graduate	61	31	2	56	34	7	55	30	6	59	29	7	47	38	5
Income															
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Occupation															
Professional/business	40	55	4	35	59	4	40	54	4	37	58	4	38	55	6
Clerical/support	50	48	2	51	46	3	53	44	2	48	48	3	47	50	4
Manual/service	40	55	4	39	55	4	41	51	6	39	53	6	40	52	5
Farming/agriculture	60	40	0	38	58	5	56	31	12	44	38	12	35	59	6
Region															
Northeast	60	34	4	57	37	4	58	32	5	36	56	5	32	62	5
Midwest	42	54	3	39	55	5	45	48	3	39	56	4	38	54	7
South	47	48	4	43	52	4	48	45	5	44	49	6	49	44	5
West	38	58	4	39	55	4	44	52	4	40	56	4	38	55	6
Religion															
Protestant	47	49	3	43	53	3	48	46	4	46	50	4	46	48	5
Catholic	40	56	3	40	56	3	40	55	3	34	61	2	39	56	4
Jewish	18	71	10	20	65	15	13	65	17	24	71	6	20	53	20
None	24	66	8	16	71	11	21	64	12	22	59	16	22	66	9
Politics															
Republican	47	49	3	44	51	4	46	48	3	42	53	4	43	50	5
Democrat	44	50	4	41	54	4	44	49	6	44	51	5	44	47	7
Independent	37	59	3	34	61	4	39	54	5	34	58	5	34	60	5

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 5.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

^aBeginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution		
What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution
40%	55%	4%	42%	54%	3%	37%	60%	3%	38%	58%	4%	38%	57%	4%	36%	60%	3%
26	66	6	32	62	5	26	68	5	25	70	4	27	67	5	24	72	3
49	47	3	48	48	2	45	52	2	48	48	4	47	49	3	45	51	3
41	54	4	44	53	3	38	58	3	39	56	4	39	56	4	36	60	3
31	60	6	31	60	6	31	65	3	31	64	3	32	63	3	34	59	5
16	79	0	28	59	10	15	79	3	23	70	6	30	66	3	18	77	4
30	66	3	24	72	3	25	72	2	25	72	2	17	79	4	17	78	4
33	63	4	33	64	3	28	69	3	30	66	3	33	64	3	29	68	2
54	38	5	60	34	3	54	41	4	54	39	5	54	39	5	52	43	4
36	59	4	36	60	3	30	66	3	32	63	4	32	64	3	31	65	3
42	53	4	46	49	3	42	56	2	41	57	2	44	51	4	41	55	3
51	43	4	55	39	4	54	34	9	48	43	6	44	49	6	42	52	3
NA	NA	NA	35	60	5	32	65	2	31	65	3	34	63	3	30	67	3
NA	NA	NA	37	60	2	34	63	3	34	62	3	39	57	4	32	66	2
NA	NA	NA	41	53	4	35	60	4	39	56	4	32	65	2	34	61	4
NA	NA	NA	47	49	2	41	55	3	39	54	4	42	51	6	44	51	3
35	60	4	38	58	3	32	64	3	34	62	4	35	61	4	31	65	3
45	51	4	48	48	4	43	55	1	41	56	3	45	50	4	46	50	3
41	53	4	42	54	3	35	61	4	38	57	3	35	60	3	34	61	3
25	65	5	42	53	5	38	52	5	45	47	3	52	48	0	49	49	3
34	61	3	38	56	5	32	63	4	34	60	5	32	62	5	31	66	3
41	54	5	40	56	3	34	63	2	40	56	3	40	57	3	35	61	4
39	54	5	47	49	2	43	53	3	42	53	3	41	54	4	43	53	2
44	53	3	38	57	4	32	64	3	30	65	4	36	60	4	27	66	5
43	52	3	49	47	2	43	54	2	45	51	3	46	50	3	44	53	2
38	58	4	35	62	3	32	66	2	30	65	4	33	62	4	31	66	2
4	82	9	20	80	0	20	76	5	24	63	11	19	72	6	19	79	2
18	66	11	15	75	9	17	75	7	18	73	6	18	74	6	16	76	7
43	54	2	52	45	3	43	55	2	43	53	4	43	53	3	42	56	2
38	55	4	41	55	3	36	61	2	36	59	4	37	58	4	36	59	4
38	56	5	35	60	4	33	63	4	35	61	3	36	59	4	32	63	4

Table 2.116

Attitudes toward the legality of homosexual relations

United States, selected years 1977-2002

Question: "Do you think homosexual relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

	Legal	Not legal	No opinion
1977	43%	43%	14%
1982	45	39	16
1985	44	47	9
1986	33	54	13
1987	33	55	12
1989	47	36	17
1992	48	44	8
1996	44	47	9
1999	50	43	7
2001	54	42	4
2002	52	43	5

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 6-9, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/homosexual.asp> [July 3, 2002]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.117

Attitudes toward the legality of homosexual relations

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "Do you think homosexual relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

	Legal	Not legal	No opinion
National	52%	43%	5%
Sex			
Male	51	45	4
Female	53	40	7
Race			
White	54	41	5
Nonwhite	46	47	7
Black	31	62	7
Age			
18 to 29 years	60	37	3
30 to 49 years	60	36	4
50 to 64 years	49	46	5
50 years and older	39	53	8
65 years and older	28	62	10
Education			
College post graduate	66	30	4
College graduate	65	30	5
Some college	54	42	4
High school graduate or less	41	52	7
Income			
\$75,000 and over	66	32	2
\$50,000 to \$74,999	61	32	7
\$30,000 to \$49,999	54	42	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	44	51	5
Under \$20,000	38	55	7
Community			
Urban area	56	37	7
Suburban area	55	40	5
Rural area	42	54	4
Region			
East	59	34	7
Midwest	46	49	5
South	45	50	5
West	60	35	5
Politics			
Republican	44	52	4
Democrat	54	41	5
Independent	59	35	6

Note: See Note, table 2.116. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.118

Attitudes toward the legality of abortion

United States, selected years 1975-2002

Question: "Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?"

	Always legal	Legal under certain circumstances	Never legal	No opinion
1975	21%	54%	22%	3%
1977	22	55	19	4
1979	22	54	19	5
1980	25	53	18	4
1981	23	52	21	4
1983	23	58	16	3
1985	21	55	21	3
1988	24	57	17	2
April 1989	27	50	18	5
July 1989	29	51	17	3
1990	31	53	12	4
May 1991	32	50	17	1
September 1991	33	49	14	4
January 1992	31	53	14	2
June 1992	34	48	13	5
1993	32	51	13	4
March 1994	31	51	15	3
September 1994	33	52	13	2
February 1995	33	50	15	2
September 1995	31	54	12	3
July 1996	25	58	15	2
September 1996	24	52	17	7
August 1997	22	61	15	2
November 1997	26	55	17	2
1998	23	59	17	1
1999	27	55	16	2
January 2000	26	56	15	3
March 2000	28	51	19	2
May 2001	26	58	15	1
August 2001	26	56	17	1
2002	26	54	18	2

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2002 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,001 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 8-10, 2002. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/topics/abortion.asp> [Mar. 20, 2002]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.119

Attitudes toward the legality of abortion

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2002

Question: "Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?"

	Always legal	Legal under certain circumstances	Never legal
National	26%	54%	18%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	23	58	17
Female	29	51	18
<u>Race</u>			
White	26	56	16
Nonwhite	26	50	23
Black	27	54	19
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	31	44	24
30 to 49 years	27	56	16
50 to 64 years	23	60	14
50 years and older	23	59	16
65 years and older	23	57	18
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	38	51	9
College graduate	35	49	15
Some college	27	56	16
High school graduate or less	19	56	23
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	36	52	11
\$50,000 to \$74,999	30	54	14
\$30,000 to \$49,999	26	55	18
\$20,000 to \$29,999	19	60	20
Under \$20,000	19	58	22
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	30	52	16
Suburban area	28	53	17
Rural area	17	60	22
<u>Region</u>			
East	35	53	10
Midwest	21	56	21
South	19	56	22
West	33	51	16
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	19	59	20
Democrat	29	58	13
Independent	31	48	19

Note: See Note, table 2.118. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Page 186 intentionally blank.

Appendix 5

Public opinion survey sampling procedures

Note: The sampling procedures of five public opinion surveys or survey organizations are presented in this appendix: The Gallup Poll, the Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Education Poll, the Harris Poll, the National Opinion Research Center, and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System.

GALLUP POLLS

Information on Gallup survey sampling procedures was excerpted from George H. Gallup, *The Gallup Poll, Public Opinion 1934-1971, Vol. 1, 1935-1948* (New York: Random House, 1972), pp. vi-viii; George H. Gallup, *The Gallup Opinion Index*, Report No. 162 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, January 1979), pp. 29, 30; George Gallup, *The Sophisticated Poll Watcher's Guide* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Opinion Press, 1976), p. 102; and from information provided to SOURCEBOOK staff by The Gallup Organization, Inc.

All Gallup polls since 1950, excluding certain special surveys, have been based on a national probability sample of interviewing areas. Refinements in the sample design have been introduced at various points in time since then. However, over this period the design essentially has conformed to the current procedure, as described in the following paragraphs.

The United States is divided into seven size-of-community strata: cities of population 1,000,000 and over, 250,000 to 999,999, and 50,000 to 249,999, with the urbanized areas of all these cities forming a single stratum; cities of 2,500 to 49,999; rural villages; and farm or open country rural areas. Within each of these strata, the population is further divided into seven regions: New England, Middle Atlantic, East Central, West Central, South, Mountain, and Pacific Coast. Within each size-of-community and regional stratum the population is arrayed in geographic order and zoned into equal size groups of sampling units. Pairs of localities in each zone are selected with probability of selection proportional to the size of each locality's population--producing two replicated samples of localities.

Within selected cities for which population data are reported by census tracts or

enumeration districts, these sample subdivisions are drawn with probability of selection proportional to the size of the population. For other cities, minor civil divisions, and rural areas in the sample for which population data are not reported by census tracts or enumeration districts, small, definable geographic areas are drawn, with the probability of selection proportional to size where available data permit; otherwise with equal probability.

A block or block cluster is drawn with probability of selection proportional to the number of dwelling units from within each subdivision selected for which block statistics are available. In cities and towns for which block statistics are not available, blocks are drawn at random, that is, with equal probability. In subdivisions that are rural or open country in character, segments approximately equal in size of population are delineated and drawn with equal probability.

In each cluster of blocks and each segment so selected, a randomly selected starting point is designated on the interviewer's map of the area. Starting at this point, interviewers are required to follow a given direction in the selection of households, taking households in sequence, until their assigned number of interviews has been completed. Within each occupied dwelling unit or household reached, the interviewer asks to speak to the youngest male 18 or older at home, or if no male is at home, the oldest female 18 or older. This method of selection within the household has been developed empirically to produce an age distribution of males and females separately that compares closely with the age distribution of the population. It increases the probability of selecting younger males, who are at home relatively infrequently, and the probability of reaching older females in the household who tend to be under-represented unless given a disproportionate chance of being drawn from among those at home. The method of selection among those at home within the household is not strictly random, but it is systematic and objective, and eliminates interviewer judgment in the selection process. Interviewing is conducted at times when adults are most likely to be at home, which means on weekends or if on weekdays, after 4 p.m. for females and after 6 p.m. for males. Allowance for persons not at home is made by a "times-at-home" weighting procedure rather than by "call-backs." This procedure is a standard method for reducing the sample bias that would otherwise result from under-representation of persons who are difficult to find at home.

The pre-stratification by regions is routinely supplemented by fitting each obtained sample to the latest available U.S. Census

Bureau estimates of the regional distribution of the population. Also, minor adjustments of the sample are made by educational attainment (for males and females separately), based on the annual estimates of the U.S. Census Bureau derived from their Current Population Survey. The sample procedure described is designed to produce an approximation of the adult civilian population living in the United States, except for those persons in institutions such as prisons or hospitals. The four regions of the country, as reported in Gallup public opinion surveys, have been defined in the following manner:

East--Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, District of Columbia;

Midwest--Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas;

South--Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas; and

West--Montana, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Alaska.

Urbanization--Central cities have populations of 50,000 and above. Suburbs constitute the fringe and include populations of 2,500 to 49,999. Rural areas are those that have populations of under 2,500.

Race, ethnicity--Nonwhite is comprised of individuals who report themselves as any combination of the following classifications: Hispanic, American Indian, other Indian, Asian, and black. Black and Hispanic are subcategories of nonwhite. However, due to variation in respondent reporting the category white may also include some Hispanics.

According to Gallup policy, if the interviewee does not hear or does not understand a question, the interviewer repeats the question and if on the second reading the person does not understand or does not get the point of the question, the interviewer checks the "no opinion" box. It should also be noted that seldom more than 10% of all those contacted refuse to be interviewed. Gallup Poll surveys of a nationwide sample usually include approximately 1,000 respondents.

Sampling error

All sample surveys are subject to sampling error, that is, the extent to which the results may differ from those that would be obtained if the entire population surveyed had been

interviewed. The size of sampling errors depends largely on the number of interviews. The following table may be used in estimating sampling error. The computed allowances have taken into account the effect of the sample design upon sampling error. They may be interpreted as indicating the range (plus or minus the figure shown) within which the results of repeated samplings in the same time period could be expected to vary, 95% of the time, assuming the same sampling procedure, the same interviewers, and the same questionnaire.

Recommended allowance for sampling error (plus or minus) at 95% confidence level

Percent-ages	Sample size					
	1,000	750	600	400	200	100
10	2	3	3	4	5	7
20	3	4	4	5	7	9
30	4	4	4	6	8	10
40	4	4	5	6	8	11
50	4	4	5	6	8	11
60	4	4	5	6	8	11
70	4	4	4	6	8	10
80	3	4	4	5	7	9
90	2	3	3	4	5	7

The table would be used in the following manner: Assume a reported percentage is 33 for a group that includes 1,000 respondents. Proceed to row "Percentages near 30" in the table and then to the column headed, "1,000." The figure in this cell is four, which means that at the 95% confidence level, the 33% result obtained in the sample is subject to a sampling error of plus or minus four points.

PHI DELTA KAPPA/GALLUP POLL

Information on the Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll was excerpted from George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 276, p. 41; and Report No. 288, p. 41 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); Stanley M. Elam, "The 22nd Annual Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1990), p. 54; Stanley M. Elam, Lowell C. Rose, and Alec M. Gallup, "The 23rd Annual Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1991), p. 56; "The 24th Annual Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1992), p. 52; "The 25th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (October 1993), p. 152; "The 26th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1994), p. 56; Stanley M. Elam and Lowell C. Rose, "The 27th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public

Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1995), p. 56; Stanley M. Elam, Lowell C. Rose, and Alec M. Gallup, "The 28th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1996), p. 58; Lowell C. Rose, Alec M. Gallup, and Stanley M. Elam, "The 29th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappa* [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kpoll97.htm> [Dec. 31, 1997]; Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 30th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappa* [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kp9809-a.htm> [Jan. 5, 1999]; Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 31st Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1999), pp. 55, 56; "The 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2000), pp. 57, 58; and "The 33rd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2001), pp. 57, 58.

The Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup polls are modified probability samples of adults, 18 years of age and older, living in the United States.

Sample sizes and survey dates for Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup polls

	Sample size	Survey dates
1988	NA	Apr. 8-10
1989	NA	May 5-7; June 9-11
1990	1,594	Apr. 6-18; May 4-22
1991	1,500	May 3-17
1992	1,306	Apr. 23-May 14
1993	1,306	May 21-June 9
1994	1,326	May 10-June 8
1995	1,311	May 25-June 15
1996	1,329	May 2-22
1997	1,517	June 3-22
1998	1,151	June 5-23
1999	1,103	May 18-June 11
2000	1,093	June 5-29
2001	1,108	May 23-June 6

Prior to the 1993 survey, data collection was done through personal, in-home interviewing of the civilian population (excluding persons in institutions such as prisons and hospitals). Beginning with the 1993 survey, the data collection design utilized the Gallup Organization's standard national telephone sample, i.e., an unclustered, directory-assisted, random-digit telephone sample, based on a proportionate stratified sampling design. For further information on the survey sampling

procedures see Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 33rd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2001), pp. 57, 58.

HARRIS POLLS

Information on the Harris Poll survey sampling procedures was provided to SOURCEBOOK staff by Harris Interactive, Inc., formerly Louis Harris and Associates, Inc.; similar procedures used in earlier surveys are described in Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., *The Harris Yearbook of Public Opinion 1970: A Compendium of Current American Attitudes* (New York: Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1971), pp. 511-514.

Harris Poll surveys are based on a national sample of the civilian population of the continental United States. Alaska and Hawaii are not represented in the sample, nor are persons in prisons, hospitals, or religious and educational institutions. The sample is based on census information on the population of each State in the country, and on the population living in standard metropolitan areas and in the rest of the country. These population figures are updated by intercensal estimates produced annually by the U.S. Census Bureau, and sample locations are selected biennially to reflect changes in the country's demographic profile.

National samples are stratified in two dimensions--geographic region and metropolitan (and non-metropolitan) residence. Stratification insures that the samples will reflect, within 1%, the actual proportions of those living in the country in different regions and metropolitan (and non-metropolitan) areas. Within each stratum the selection of the ultimate sampling unit is achieved through a series of steps, a process that is technically called multi-stage unclustered sampling. Each sampling unit yields one interview. First States, then counties, and then minor civil divisions (cities, towns, townships) are selected with probability proportional to census estimates of their respective household populations.

The Harris Poll survey has four of these national samples, and they are used in rotation from study to study. The specific sample locations in one study generally are adjacent to those used in the next study. For most surveys covering the entire country, more than one national sample may be employed. Harris Poll surveys of nationwide samples usually include approximately 1,250 respondents.

All interviews prior to 1978 were conducted in person, in the homes of respondents. At each household the respondent was chosen

by means of a random selection pattern, geared to the number of adults of each sex who live in the household. Interviews lasted approximately 1 hour. Almost all interviews conducted as of 1978 have been telephone interviews. Respondents are selected on the basis of random digit dialing. When the completed interviews are received in New York, a subsample of the respondents are re-contacted to verify that the data have been accurately recorded. Questionnaires are edited and coded in the New York office. The Harris sampling procedure is designed to produce a national cross-section that accurately reflects the actual population of the country 18 years of age and older living in private households. This means that the results of a survey among a national sample can be projected as representative of the country's civilian population 18 years of age and older.

Harris Poll survey national results are reported for the East, Midwest, South, and West regions of the country, defined as follows:

East--Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, West Virginia;

Midwest--North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio;

South--Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas; and

West--Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico.

Sampling error

The results of the surveys are subject to sampling error, i.e., the difference between the results obtained from the sample and those that would be obtained by surveying the entire population. The size of a possible sampling error varies to some extent with the size of the sample and with the percentage giving a particular answer. The following table sets forth the range of error in samples of different sizes and at different percentages of response.

For example, if the response for a sample size of 1,200 is 30%, in 95 cases out of 100 the response in the population will be between 27% and 33%. This error accounts only for sampling error. Survey research also is susceptible to other errors, such as data handling and interview recording.

Recommended allowance for sampling error (plus or minus) at 95% confidence level

Response percent	Sample size					
	1,600	1,200	900	500	250	100
10(90)	2	2	2	3	5	7
20(80)	2	3	3	4	6	10
30(70)	3	3	4	5	7	11
40(60)	3	3	4	5	7	12
50	3	3	4	5	8	12

NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER

Information on the survey procedures employed by the National Opinion Research Center was excerpted from the National Opinion Research Center, *General Social Surveys, 1972-2000: Cumulative Codebook* (Chicago: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago, 2001), pp. v, vi, 61, 1288, 1289, 1525, 1526.

The National Opinion Research Center (NORC) maintains a national probability sample. The General Social Surveys (GSS) are interviews administered to the NORC national samples using a standard questionnaire. They have been conducted during February, March, and April from 1972 to 1978, 1980, 1982 to 1991, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, and 2000. There are a total of 40,933 completed interviews (1,613 in 1972; 1,504 in 1973; 1,484 in 1974; 1,490 in 1975; 1,499 in 1976; 1,530 in 1977; 1,532 in 1978; 1,468 in 1980; 1,506 and an oversample of 354 blacks in 1982; 1,599 in 1983; 1,473 in 1984; 1,534 in 1985; 1,470 in 1986; 1,466 and an oversample of 353 blacks in 1987; 1,481 in 1988; 1,537 in 1989; 1,372 in 1990; 1,517 in 1991; 1,606 in 1993; 2,992 in 1994; 2,904 in 1996; 2,832 in 1998; and 2,817 in 2000). Sampling frames are based on 1970 census information for surveys conducted in 1972-78, 1980, and 1982. For all interviews conducted from 1984-91, the national sampling frame was based on 1980 census information. A split sample transition design was used in the 1983 survey; one-half of the sample was drawn from the 1970 frame and one-half from the 1980 frame. Again in 1993, a split sample transition design was employed for the 1993 survey to measure the effect of switching from the 1980 sample frame to the 1990 sample frame. Half the sample was drawn from each frame. Beginning in 1994, the 1990 sample frame has been used. Since 1973, the median length of the interview has been about one and a half hours. This study employed standard field procedures for national surveys, including interviewer hiring and training by area supervisors in interviewing locations when necessary.

Each survey is an independently drawn sample of English-speaking persons 18 years of age and older, living in

non-institutional arrangements within the United States. Alaska and Hawaii are not included in samples drawn from the 1970 sampling frame, but are represented in one-half of the 1983 surveys and all those conducted from 1984-2000. Block quota sampling was used in the 1972, 1973, and 1974 surveys and for half of the 1975 and 1976 surveys. Full probability sampling was employed in half of the 1975 and 1976 surveys and in all of the surveys conducted subsequent to 1976.

The sample is a multi-stage area probability sample to the block or segment level. At the block level, quota sampling is used with quotas based on sex, age, and employment status. The cost of the quota samples is substantially less than the cost of a full probability sample of the same size, but there is, of course, the chance of sample biases mainly due to not-at-homes, which are not controlled by the quotas. However, in order to reduce this bias, the interviewers are given instructions to canvass and interview only after 3:00 p.m. on weekdays or during the weekend or holidays. The first stage of sample selection includes selection of the Primary Sampling Units (PSUs). The PSUs employed are Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) or nonmetropolitan counties selected in NORC's Master Sample. These SMSAs and counties were stratified by region, age, and race before selection. The units of selection of the second stage were block groups (BGs) and enumeration districts (EDs). These EDs and BGs were stratified according to race and income of the residents. The third stage of selection was that of blocks, which were selected with probabilities proportional to size. In places without block statistics, measures of size for the blocks were obtained by field counting. The average cluster size is five respondents per cluster.

The quotas call for approximately equal numbers of males and females with the exact proportion in each segment determined by the 1970 census tract data. For women, the additional requirement is imposed that there be the proper proportion of employed and unemployed females in the location. Again, these quotas are based on the 1970 census tract data. For males, the added requirement is that there be the proper proportion of males over and under age 35 in the location. Past experience suggests that, for most purposes, this quota sample of 1,500 could be considered as having about the same efficiency as a simple random sample of 1,000 cases.

The 1975 and 1976 studies were conducted with a traditional sample design, one-half full probability and one-half block quota. The sample was divided into two parts for several reasons: (1) to provide data for

possibly interesting methodological comparisons; and (2) on the chance that there are some differences over time, that it would be possible to assign these differences to either shifts in sample designs, or changes in response patterns. Having allowed for the appearance of all items in the transitional sample design, the GSS then switched to a full probability sample beginning with the 1977 survey.

Rotation

Since its inception, the GSS has employed a *rotation design* under which most of its items appeared on two out of every three surveys. While this design proved to be useful for both monitoring change and augmenting the content of the GSS, it had the disadvantage of irregularly spacing the data and allowing gaps in the time series. This problem was particularly acute during 1978-82 because of the lack of funding for surveys in 1979 and 1981. At that juncture 4-year gaps regularly appeared in the data and 6-year lapses existed for bivariate correlations between items from different rotations. Even with annual surveys 2-year gaps and 3-year intervals for bivariate correlations occur. To reduce this imbalance in the time series and reduce the length of intervals, in 1988 the rotation, across-time design previously used was changed to a *split-ballot design*. Under this design rotations 1, 2, and 3 occur across random sub-samples within each survey rather than across surveys (and years). Each sub-sample (known as ballots) consists of 1/3 of the sample. Permanent items are not affected by this switch. They continue to appear for all cases on all surveys. Rotating items now appear on all surveys and are asked of two-thirds of respondents on each survey. Over a 3-year cycle the same number of respondents are asked the "rotating" items as before (3,000), but instead of coming in two segments of 1,500 each from two surveys, they appear in three segments of 1,000 each from three surveys.

The 1993 GSS was the last survey conducted according to this design. In 1994 two major innovations were introduced to the GSS.

First, the traditional core was substantially reduced to allow for the creation of mini-modules (i.e., blocks of about 15 minutes devoted to some combination of small- to medium-sized supplements). The mini-modules space provides greater flexibility to incorporate innovations and to include important items proposed by the social science community.

Second, a new biennial, split-sample design was used. The sample consists of two parallel sub-samples of approximately 1,500

cases each. The two sub-samples both contain the identical core. The A sample also contains a standard, topical module, the mini-modules, and an International Social Survey Program (ISSP) module (on women, work, and the family). The B sample has a second topical module, mini-modules, and an ISSP module (on the environment). In effect, one can think of the A sample as representing a traditional GSS for 1994 and the B sample representing a traditional GSS for 1995. Rather than being fielded separately in two different years they are fielded together.

Beginning in 1996, and in subsequent even-numbered years, the same design described for 1994 was repeated. In addition, in 1994 only, a transitional design was utilized to calibrate any impact of deletions from the core.

Survey results are reported for four regional categories, with the States classified in the following way:

Northeast--Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont;

North Central--Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin;

South--Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia;

West--Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Information on the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System was excerpted from Jo Anne Grunbaum et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--United States, 2001," CDC Surveillance Summaries, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 51 SS-4 (Washington, DC: USGPO, June 28, 2002), pp. 1-3.

The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) is conducted biennially by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and monitors priority health risk behaviors among youth and adults. The 2001 national school-based survey, a component of the YRBSS, employed a three-stage cluster sample design to produce a nationally representative sample of students in grades 9 through 12. The first-stage sampling frame contained 1,256 primary sampling units (PSUs), consisting of

large counties or groups of smaller, adjacent counties. From the 1,256 PSUs, 57 were selected from 16 strata formed on the basis of the degree of urbanization and the percentage of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students in the PSU. The PSUs were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. At the second sampling stage, 199 schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. To enable separate analysis of black and Hispanic students, schools with substantial numbers of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students were sampled at higher rates than all other schools. The third stage of sampling consisted of randomly selecting one or two intact classes of a required subject (e.g., English or social studies) from grades 9 through 12 at each chosen school. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate in the study. The school response rate was 75% and the student response rate was 83%, for an overall response rate of 63%. A total of 13,627 questionnaires were completed in 150 schools. Of these, 26 questionnaires failed quality control and were excluded from the analysis resulting in 13,601 usable questionnaires.

Survey procedures were designed to protect students' privacy by allowing for anonymous and voluntary participation. Students completed the self-administered questionnaire during one class period and recorded their responses directly on a computer-scannable booklet or answer sheet.

A weighting factor was applied to each student record to adjust for nonresponse and for the varying probabilities of selection, including those resulting from the oversampling of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students. Numbers of students in racial/ethnic groups other than white (non-Hispanic), black (non-Hispanic), and Hispanic were too low for meaningful analysis. The weights were scaled so that the weighted count of students was equal to the total sample size and so that the weighted proportions of students in each grade matched national population proportions. The data are representative of students in grades 9 through 12 in public and private schools in the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Appendix 6

Monitoring the Future Survey methodology and definitions of terms

Note: The following information was excerpted from Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1995* (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 1997), pp. 2-11, 13, 14; Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use From the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2001*, Volumes I and II (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2002); and information provided by the Monitoring the Future Project. Non-substantive editorial adaptations have been made.

Survey methodology

The research design involves annual data collections from high school seniors during the spring of each year, beginning with the class of 1975. Each data collection takes place in approximately 130 public and private high schools selected to provide an accurate cross-section of high school seniors throughout the coterminous United States.

Since 1986, the results of a followup survey of those young adults 1 to 10 years beyond high school have been presented. These results should accurately characterize approximately 85% of the young adults in the class cohorts 1 to 10 years beyond high school who are high school graduates. The high school dropout segment, missing from the senior year surveys, also is missing from the followup segments.

Also, since 1980, the results of followup surveys of those high school students who have continued on to college have been presented. The college sample is limited to the most typical one for college attendance: 1 to 4 years past high school, which corresponds to the modal ages of 19 to 22 years old. This age category should encompass approximately 70% to 75% of all students enrolled in college full-time.

Sampling procedures

The procedure for securing a nationwide sample of high school seniors is a multi-stage one. Stage 1 is the selection of particular geographic areas, Stage 2 is the selection of one or more high schools in each area, and Stage 3 is the selection of seniors within each high school.

Stage 1: Geographic areas. The geographic areas used in this study are the primary sampling units (PSUs) developed by the Sampling Section of the Survey Research Center (SRC) for use in the Center's nationwide interview studies. These consist of 74 primary areas throughout the coterminous United States—including the 12 largest metropolitan areas, which contain about 30% of the Nation's population. Of the 62 other primary areas, 10 are in the Northeast, 18 in the North Central area, 24 in the South, and 10 in the West. Because these same PSUs are used for personal interview studies by the SRC, local field representatives can be assigned to administer the data collections in practically all schools.

Stage 2: Schools. In the major metropolitan areas more than one high school is often included in the sampling design; in most other sampling areas a single high school is sampled. In all cases, the selections of high schools are made such that the probability of drawing a school is proportionate to the size of its senior class. The larger the senior class (according to recent records), the higher the selection probability assigned to the high school. When a sampled school is unwilling to participate, a replacement school as similar to it as possible is selected from the same geographic area.

Stage 3: Students. Within each selected school, up to about 400 seniors may be included in the data collection. In schools with fewer than 400 seniors, the usual procedure is to include all of them in the data collection. In larger schools, a subset of seniors is selected either by randomly sampling classrooms or by some other random method that is convenient for the school and judged to be unbiased. Sample weights are assigned to each respondent so as to take account of variations in the sizes of samples from one school to another, as well as the (smaller) variations in selection probabilities occurring at the earlier stages of sampling.

The three-stage sampling procedure described above yielded the number of participating schools and students indicated in Table 1.

One limitation in the design is that it does not include in the target population those young men and women who drop out of high school before graduation (or before the last few months of the senior year, to be more precise). This excludes a relatively small proportion of each age cohort—between 15% and 20%. This is not an unimportant segment, since certain behaviors such as illicit drug use and delinquency tend to be higher than average in this group. However, the addition of a representative sample of dropouts would increase the cost of the present research enormously, because of

their dispersion and generally higher level of resistance to being located and interviewed.

For the purposes of estimating characteristics of the entire age group, the omission of high school dropouts does introduce certain biases; however, their small proportion sets outer limits on the bias. For the purposes of estimating changes from one cohort of high school seniors to another, the omission of dropouts represents a problem only if different cohorts have considerably different proportions who drop out. The Source has no reason to expect dramatic changes in those rates for the foreseeable future, and recently published government statistics indicate a great deal of stability in dropout rates since 1970.

Some may use the high school data to draw conclusions about changes for the entire age group. The Source does not encourage such extrapolation but suspects that the conclusions reached often would be valid, since over 80% of the age group is in the surveyed segment of the population and the Source expects that changes among those not in school are very likely to parallel the changes among those who are. Nevertheless, for purposes of characterizing the entire age group, the Source urges the user to compare the results from the present monitoring system with those from other data collection systems using different methods, such as household interviews.

One other important feature of the base-year sampling procedures should be noted. All schools (except for half of the initial 1975 sample) are asked to participate in two data collections, thereby permitting replacement of half of the total sample of schools each year. One motivation for requesting that schools participate for 2 years is administrative efficiency; it is a costly and time-consuming procedure to secure the cooperation of schools, and a 2-year period of participation cuts down that effort substantially. Another important advantage is that whenever an appreciable shift in scores from one graduating class to the next is observed, it is possible to compare whether the shift might be attributable to some differences in the newly sampled schools. This is done simply by repeating the analysis using only the 60 or so schools that participated both years. Thus far, the half-sample approach has worked quite well; and examination of drug prevalence data from the "matched half-samples" shows that the half samples of repeat schools yielded drug prevalence trends that were virtually identical to trends based on all schools.

Questionnaire administration

Questionnaire administration in each school is carried out by the local SRC representatives and their assistants, following standardized procedures detailed in a project instruction manual. The questionnaires are administered in classrooms during normal class periods whenever possible, although circumstances in some schools require the use of larger group administrations. Teachers are not asked to do anything more than introduce the SRC staff members and (in most cases) remain in the classroom to help guarantee an orderly atmosphere for the survey. Teachers are urged to avoid walking around the room, so that students may feel free to write their answers without fear of being observed.

The actual process of completing the questionnaires is quite straightforward. Respondents are given sharpened pencils and asked to use them because the questionnaires are designed for automatic scanning. Most respondents can finish within a 45-minute class period; for those who cannot, an effort is made to provide a few minutes of additional time.

Content areas and questionnaire design

Drug use and related attitudes are the topics that receive the most extensive coverage in the Monitoring the Future Project; but the questionnaires also deal with a wide range of other subject areas, including attitudes about government, social institutions, race relations, changing roles for women, educational aspirations, occupational aims, and marital and family plans, as well as a variety of background and demographic factors. The list below provides an outline of the 20 general subject areas into which all items are categorized. Given this breadth of content, the study is not presented to respondents as a "drug use study," nor do they tend to view it as such.

Measurement content areas

A. Drugs. Drug use and related attitudes and beliefs, drug availability and exposure, surrounding conditions and social meanings of drug use. Views of significant others regarding drugs.

B. Education. Educational lifestyle, values, experiences, and environments.

C. Work and leisure. Vocational values, meaning of work and leisure, work and leisure activities, preferences regarding occupational characteristics and type of work setting.

D. Sex roles and family. Values, attitudes, and expectations about marriage, family structure, sex roles, and sex discrimination.

E. Population concerns. Values and attitudes about overpopulation and birth control.

F. Conservation, materialism, equity, etc. Values, attitudes, and expectations related to conservation, pollution, materialism, equity, and the sharing of resources. Preferences regarding type of dwelling and urbanicity.

G. Religion. Religious affiliation, practices, and views.

H. Politics. Political affiliation, activities, and views.

I. Social change. Values, attitudes, and expectations about social change.

J. Social problems. Concern with various social problems facing the Nation and the world.

K. Major social institutions. Confidence in and commitment to various major social institutions (business, unions, branches of government, press, organized religion, military, etc.).

L. Military. Views about the armed services and the use of military force. Personal plans for military service.

M. Interpersonal relationships. Qualitative and quantitative characteristics of cross-age and peer relationships. Interpersonal conflict.

N. Race relations. Attitudes toward and experiences with other racial groups.

O. Concern for others. Concern for others; voluntary and charitable activities.

P. Happiness. Happiness and life satisfaction, overall and in specific life domains.

Q. Other personality variables. Attitudes about self (including self-esteem), locus of control, loneliness, risk-taking, trust in others, importance placed on various life goals, counter-culture orientation, hostility.

R. Background. Demographic and family background characteristics, living arrangements.

S. Deviant behavior and victimization. Delinquent behaviors, driving violations and accidents (including those under the influence of drugs), victimization experiences.

T. Health. Health habits, somatic symptoms, medical treatments.

Because many questions are needed to cover all of these topic areas, much of the questionnaire content was divided into five different questionnaire forms in 1976-88 and six different questionnaire forms for 1989 and beyond, which are distributed to participants in an ordered sequence that produces virtually identical subsamples. About one-third of each questionnaire form consists of key or "core" variables that are common to all forms. All demographic variables and some measures of drug use are included in this "core" set of measures. This use of the full sample for drug and demographic measures provides a more accurate estimation on these dimensions and also makes it possible to link them statistically to all of the other measures that are included in a single form only.

Representativeness and validity

The samples for this study are intended to be representative of high school seniors throughout the 48 coterminous States. As previously mentioned, this definition of the sample excludes one important portion of the age cohort: those who have dropped out of high school before nearing the end of the senior year. But given the aim of representing high school seniors, it is useful to consider the extent to which the obtained samples of schools and students are likely to be representative of all seniors and the degree to which the data obtained are likely to be valid.

There are at least four ways in which survey data of this sort might fall short of being fully accurate. First, some sampled schools refuse to participate, which could introduce some bias. Second, the failure to obtain questionnaire data from 100% of the students sampled in participating schools also could introduce bias. Third, the answers provided by participating students are open to both conscious and unconscious distortions, which could reduce validity. Finally, limitations in sample size and/or design could place limits on the accuracy of estimates.

School participation

As noted in the description of the sampling design, schools are invited to participate in the study for a 2-year period. With very few exceptions, each school that has participated for one data collection has agreed to participate for a second. Thus far, approximately 65% of the schools initially invited to participate have agreed to do so each year; for each school refusal, a similar school (in terms of size, geographic area, urbanicity, etc.) was recruited as a replacement.

The selection of replacement schools almost entirely removes problems of bias in region, urbanicity, and the like that might result from certain schools refusing to participate. Other potential biases are more subtle, however. For example, if it turned out that most schools with "drug problems" refused to participate, that could seriously bias the drug estimates derived from the sample. And if any other single factor was dominant in most refusals, that also might suggest a source of serious bias. In fact, however, the reason for schools' refusals to participate are varied and largely a function of happenstance events of the particular year. Thus, there is a fair amount of confidence that school refusals have not seriously biased the surveys.

Student participation

Completed questionnaires are obtained from approximately 83% of all students sampled. The single most important reason that students are missed is that they are absent from class at the time of data collection, and in most cases it is not workable to schedule a special followup data collection for them.

In addition to absenteeism, student nonparticipation occurs because of schedule conflicts with school trips and other activities that tend to be more frequent than usual during the final months of the senior year. Of course, some students refuse to complete or turn in a questionnaire. However, the SRC representatives in the field estimate this proportion to be only about 1%.

Research design for the surveys of lower grades

Beginning in 1991 the study was expanded to include nationally representative samples of eighth and tenth grade students. In general, the procedures used for the annual surveys of eighth and tenth grade students closely parallel those used for high school seniors, including the procedures for selecting schools and students, questionnaire administrations, and questionnaire formats. A major exception is that only two different questionnaire forms were used in 1991-96 and four forms were used beginning in 1997, rather than the six forms used with seniors. Identical forms are used for both eighth and tenth grades, and, for the most part, questionnaire content is drawn from the twelfth grade questionnaires. Thus, key demographic variables and measures of drug use and related attitudes and beliefs are generally identical for all three grades. Fewer questions about lifestyles and values are included in these forms than in the twelfth grade forms, in part because it is believed that many of these attitudes are more likely to be formed by twelfth grade, and therefore are best monitored there. For the national survey of eighth graders,

approximately 150 schools are sampled, and approximately 17,000 to 19,000 students are surveyed. For the tenth graders, approximately 130 schools are sampled, and approximately 14,000 to 16,000 students are surveyed. (See Table 2.)

Research design for the followup surveys after high school

Beginning with the graduating class of 1976, each class is followed up and surveyed each year after high school for seven followup data collections. From the approximately 15,000 to 17,000 seniors originally participating in a given class, a representative sample of 2,400 individuals was chosen for followup. In order to ensure sufficient numbers of drug users in the followup surveys, those fitting certain criteria of current drug use (that is, those reporting 20 or more uses of marijuana or use of any of the other illicit drugs in the previous 30 days) were selected with higher probability (by a factor of 3.0) than the remaining seniors. Differential weighting is used in all followup analyses to compensate for the differential sampling probabilities.

The 2,400 selected respondents from each class were randomly assigned to one of two matching groups of 1,200 each; one group was surveyed on even-numbered calendar years, while the other group was surveyed on odd-numbered years. This biannual procedure was intended to reduce respondent burden.

Followup procedures

Using information provided by respondents at the time of the senior survey (name, address, phone number, and the name and address of someone who would always know how to reach them), students selected for the panels were contacted by mail. Newsletters were sent each year, and name and address corrections were requested. Questionnaires were sent by certified mail in the spring of each year. A check for \$5.00 made out to the respondent was attached to the front. Beginning with the class of 1992, the followup checks have been raised to \$10.00 to compensate for the effects of inflation over the life of the study. Reminder letters and post cards went out at fixed intervals thereafter and finally, those not responding received a prompting phone call from the Survey Research Center's phone interviewing facility in Ann Arbor, MI. If requested, a second copy of the questionnaire was sent.

Panel retention rates

To date, the panel retention rates have remained quite high. In the first followup

after high school, about 80% of the original panel returned questionnaires. The retention rate decreases ordinally with time; however, the 2001 panel retention from the class of 1987--the oldest of the panels, now age 32 (14 years past their first data collection in high school)--is 51%.

Since attrition is to a modest degree associated with drug use, corrections to the prevalence estimates are presented for the followup panels. These raise the prevalence estimates from what they would be uncorrected, but only slightly. It is believed that the resulting estimates are the most accurate obtainable, but still low for the age group as a whole due to the omission of dropouts and absentees from the population covered by the original panels.

Validity of self-report data

Survey measures of delinquency and drug use depend upon respondents reporting what are, in many cases, illegal acts. Thus, a critical question is whether such self-reports are likely to be valid. Like most studies dealing with these areas, there is no direct, objective validation of the present measures; however, the considerable amount of inferential evidence that exists strongly suggests that the self-report questions produce largely valid data. A number of factors suggest a reasonable amount of confidence about the validity of the responses to what are presumably among the most sensitive questions in the study: a low nonresponse on the drug question, a large proportion admitting to some illicit drug use, the consistency of findings across several years of the present study, strong evidence of construct validity (based on relationships observed between variables), a close match between these data and the findings from other studies using other methods, and the findings from several methodological studies that have used objective validation methods.

Accuracy of the sample

A sample survey never can provide the same level of accuracy as would be obtained if the entire target population were to participate in the survey--in the case of the present study, about 2.8 million seniors per year. But perfect accuracy of this sort would be extremely expensive and certainly not worthwhile considering that a high level of accuracy can be obtained by a carefully designed probability sample. The accuracy of the sample in this study is affected both by the size of the student sample and by the number of schools in which they are clustered. Virtually all estimates based on the total sample have confidence intervals of

plus or minus 1.5 percentage points or smaller--sometimes considerably smaller.

Interpreting racial differences

Data are given for the two largest racial/ethnic subgroups in the population--those who identify themselves as white or Caucasian and those who identify themselves as black or African-American. Data are not given for the other ethnic categories (American Indians, Asian Americans, Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, or other Latin Americans) since each of these groups comprises a small percentage of the sample in any given year, which means that their small Ns (in combination with their clustered groupings in a limited number of schools) would yield estimates that would be too unreliable. In fact, even blacks--who constitute approximately 12% of each year's sample--are represented by only 350 to 425 respondents per year on any single questionnaire form. Further, because the sample is a stratified clustered sample, it yields less accuracy than would be yielded by a pure random sample of equal size. Therefore, because of the limited number of cases, the margin of sampling error around any statistic describing blacks is larger than for most other subgroups described in this survey.

There are factors in addition to unreliability, however, that could be misleading in the interpretation of racial differences. Given the importance that has been placed on various racial differences reported in the social science literature, the reader is cautioned to consider the various factors that could account for differences. These factors fall into three categories: differential representation in the sample, differential response tendencies, and the confounding of race with a number of other background and demographic characteristics.

Differential representation--A smaller segment of the black population than of the white population of high school age is represented by the data contained here. Insofar as any characteristic is associated with being a school dropout or absentee, it is likely to be somewhat disproportionately underrepresented among blacks in the sample.

Differential response tendencies--In examining the full range of variables, certain racial differences in response tendencies were noted. First, the tendency to state agreement in response to agree-disagree questions is generally somewhat greater among blacks than among whites.

There also is a somewhat greater than average tendency for black respondents to select extreme answer categories on

attitudinal scales. For example, even if the same proportion of blacks as whites felt positively (or negatively) about some subject, fewer whites are likely to say they feel very positively (or very negatively). In the process of interpreting racial differences, the reader should be aware that differences in responses to particular questions may be related to these more general tendencies.

A somewhat separate issue in response tendency is a respondent's willingness to answer particular questions. An exaggerated missing data rate for black males on the set of questions dealing with the respondent's own use of illicit drugs has been observed. Clearly, a respondent's willingness to be candid on such questions depends on his or her trust of the research process and of the researchers themselves. The reader is advised to check for exceptional levels of missing data when making comparisons on any variable in which candor is likely to be reduced by lower system trust. One bit of additional evidence related to trust in the research process is that higher proportions of blacks than whites indicated that if they had used marijuana or heroin they would not have been willing to report it in the survey.

Covariance with other factors--Some characteristics such as race are highly confounded (correlated) with other variables--variables that may in fact explain some observed racial differences. Put another way, at the aggregate level one might observe a considerable racial difference on some characteristic, but once one controls for certain background characteristics such as socioeconomic level or region of the country--that is, comparing the black respondents with whites who come from similar backgrounds--there may be no racial difference at all.

Definitions of terms

Drug types--Definitions or identifiers used in survey forms include:

Marijuana--pot, grass or hashish;
Other psychedelics--mescaline, peyote, psilocybin, PCP. In 2001, the question text was changed from "other psychedelics" to "other hallucinogens" and "shrooms" was added to the list of examples;
Amphetamines--uppers, pep pills, bennies, speed;
Quaaludes--quads, methaqualone;
Barbiturates--downers, goofballs, reds, yellows;
Heroin--smack, horse;
Other narcotics--methadone, opium, codeine, paregoric;
Inhalants--glue, aerosols, laughing gas;
Tranquilizers--Librium, Valium, Miltown.

Beginning with the 1979 survey, amyl and butyl nitrites were considered "other

inhalants" for questions on one alternate survey form (N is one-fifth of total sample size in 1979-88 and N is one-sixth of total sample size in 1989-2001). This change was made because not all users of this subclass of inhalants were reporting themselves as inhalant users. Hallucinogen use had been similarly underestimated because some users of the hallucinogenic drug PCP do not report themselves as users of hallucinogens--even though PCP was included as an example of a hallucinogenic drug in earlier surveys and on other questions. The alternate questionnaire form contained a special set of questions about PCP that provided other street names for it (e.g., angel dust). As a result of these definition changes, since 1979 data for drug use in these two drug classes have been adjusted for underreporting. For more information, see the Source.

Four-year college plans--Percentage distributions are given separately for (1) respondents who indicate that they "definitely will" or "probably will" graduate from a four-year college program and (2) those who say that they "definitely won't" or "probably won't" graduate from a four-year college program. Respondents not responding are omitted from both columns. A number of those who do not expect to complete a four-year college program do expect to get some post-secondary education.

Illicit drug use: Lifetime--Percentage distributions are given separately for five mutually exclusive subgroups differentiated by their degree of involvement with illicit drugs. Eligibility for each category is defined below.

None--This column contains data from respondents who indicated that they had not used marijuana at any time and did not report use of any of the following illicit drugs in their lifetime: LSD, other psychedelics, cocaine, amphetamines, tranquilizers, methaqualone, barbiturates, heroin, or other narcotics.

Marijuana only--This column contains data from other respondents who indicated that they had used marijuana (or hashish) but had never used any of the other illicit drugs listed above.

Few pills--This column contains data from respondents who indicated having used one or more of the above listed drugs (other than marijuana) but who had not used any one class of them on three or more occasions and who had not used heroin at all.

More pills--This column contains data from respondents who had used any of the above listed drugs (other than marijuana) on three or more occasions but who had never used heroin.

Any heroin--This column contains data from respondents who indicated having used heroin on one or more occasions in their lifetime.

Race--Percentage distributions are given separately for those describing themselves as "white or Caucasian" and "black or African-American." Comparable data for the other racial or ethnic groups (Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, etc.) are not shown because of the low number of cases in each group.

Region--Percentage distributions are given separately for respondents living in each of four mutually exclusive regions of the country. The regional classifications are based on U.S. Census Bureau categories and are defined as follows:

Northeast--Census classifications of New England and Middle Atlantic States; includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

North Central--Census classifications of East North Central and West North Central States; includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

South--Census classifications of South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central States; includes Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

West--Census classifications of Mountain and Pacific States; includes Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, and California.

Sex--Percentage distributions are given separately for males and females. Respondents with missing data on the question asking the respondent's sex are omitted from both groupings.

Weighted number of cases (N)--The number of cases is stated in terms of the weighted number of respondents rather than the actual number, since all percentages have been calculated using weighted cases. The actual number of respondents is about 15% higher than the weighted number for data collected in 1975, 1976, and 1977. For data collected in 1978 or later, the actual number of respondents is roughly equal to the weighted number. Weighting is used to improve the accuracy of estimates by correcting for unequal probabilities of selection that arise in the multi-stage sampling procedures. Table 3 presents the number of weighted cases for each subgroup of the high school seniors samples.

Table 1. Sample sizes and student response rates for high school seniors

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total number of schools	132	133	137	136	138	139	139	144	139	146	144	143	134	134
Public schools	113	111	114	117	120	121	119	120	118	125	124	124	116	117
Private schools	19	22	23	19	18	18	20	24	21	21	20	19	18	17
Actual number of participating students ^a	16,795	17,142	15,676	15,483	16,251	16,763	15,929	15,876	14,824	15,963	15,780	14,056	13,286	13,304
Student response rate (percent) ^b	83	86	86	83	84	84	84	84	83	83	82	83	83	82

^aSample weights are assigned to each respondent to correct for unequal probabilities of selection that arise in the multi-stage sampling procedure.

^bThe student response rate is derived by dividing the attained sample by the target sample (both based on weighted numbers of cases). The target sample is based on listings provided by schools. Because such listings may fail to take account of recent student attrition, the actual response rate may be slightly underestimated.

Table 2. Sample sizes and student response rates for eighth and tenth grades

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
<u>Tenth grade</u>											
Total number of schools	121	125	128	130	139	133	131	129	140	145	137
Public schools	107	106	111	116	117	113	113	110	117	121	117
Private schools	14	19	17	14	22	20	18	19	23	24	20
Total number of participating students ^a	14,996	14,997	15,516	16,080	17,285	15,873	15,778	15,419	13,885	14,576	14,286
Student response rate (percent) ^b	87	88	86	88	87	87	86	87	85	86	88
<u>Eighth grade</u>											
Total number of schools	162	159	156	150	152	152	152	149	150	156	153
Public schools	131	133	126	116	118	122	125	122	120	125	125
Private schools	31	26	30	34	34	30	27	27	30	31	28
Total number of participating students ^a	17,844	19,015	18,820	17,708	17,929	18,368	19,066	18,667	17,287	17,311	16,756
Student response rate (percent) ^b	90	90	90	89	89	91	89	88	87	89	90

^aSample weights are assigned to each respondent to correct for unequal probabilities of selection that arise in the multi-stage sampling procedure.

^bThe student response rate is derived by dividing the attained sample by the target sample (both based on weighted numbers of cases). The target sample is based on listings provided by schools. Because such listings may fail to take account of recent student attrition, the actual response rate may be slightly underestimated.

Table 3. Weighted sample sizes in subgroups for high school seniors

	Class of 1988	Class of 1989	Class of 1990	Class of 1991	Class of 1992	Class of 1993	Class of 1994	Class of 1995	Class of 1996	Class of 1997	Class of 1998	Class of 1999	Class of 2000	Class of 2001
Total sample	16,795	17,142	15,676	15,483	16,251	16,251	15,389	15,876	14,824	15,963	15,780	14,056	13,286	13,304
<u>Sex</u>														
Male	7,861	8,156	7,862	7,617	7,582	7,582	6,918	7,293	6,806	7,269	7,286	6,485	5,991	5,962
Female	8,342	8,471	7,241	7,277	8,053	8,053	7,957	7,891	7,261	7,793	7,618	6,804	6,492	6,543
<u>Race</u>														
White	12,051	12,250	11,410	10,754	11,029	11,029	10,656	11,012	9,890	10,210	10,280	9,499	8,447	8,187
Black	2,063	2,038	1,614	1,757	2,244	2,244	1,671	1,693	1,719	2,001	1,885	1,692	1,707	1,567
<u>Region</u>														
Northeast	3,348	3,305	3,358	2,862	2,887	2,887	2,695	2,881	3,122	3,405	2,952	2,572	2,616	2,591
North Central	4,435	4,589	4,284	4,089	4,529	4,529	4,031	4,380	3,878	4,249	3,948	3,668	3,252	3,753
South	5,753	6,255	5,262	5,330	5,787	5,787	5,636	5,593	5,345	5,469	5,928	5,108	4,687	4,300
West	3,260	2,992	2,773	3,202	3,048	3,048	3,027	3,022	2,479	2,839	2,952	2,708	2,732	2,659
<u>College plans</u>														
Complete 4 years	10,774	11,108	10,245	10,402	11,339	11,339	11,064	11,396	10,954	11,226	11,260	10,344	9,471	9,678
None or under 4 years	4,822	4,889	4,332	4,089	3,813	3,813	3,424	3,351	2,746	3,342	3,157	2,848	2,654	2,563
<u>Illicit drug use</u>														
None	7,606	8,253	8,006	8,464	9,441	9,441	8,395	7,996	7,101	7,054	7,024	6,206	5,917	5,941
Marijuana only	3,605	3,374	2,901	2,657	2,523	2,523	2,854	3,255	3,254	3,835	3,818	3,483	3,210	3,195
Few pills	2,133	2,057	1,872	1,742	1,757	1,757	1,736	1,756	1,654	1,708	1,710	1,467	1,348	1,420
More pills	2,896	2,889	2,380	2,128	1,974	1,974	2,221	2,247	2,149	2,532	2,443	2,252	2,056	2,121
Any heroin	186	222	194	141	199	199	171	250	263	320	301	283	316	236

Note: Data for 1988 are based on five questionnaire forms; Ns for one-form questions are approximately one-fifth of the total sample N. Data for 1989-2001 are based on six questionnaire forms; Ns for one-form questions are approximately one-sixth of the total sample N.

Appendix 7

National Household Survey on Drug Abuse Survey methodology

Note: The following information was excerpted from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Summary of Findings from the 2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse* (Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2001), pp. 7, 8, 63, 64, 69, 73, 74, 123. Non-substantive editorial adaptations have been made.

Survey methodology

The National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) is an ongoing series of annual national surveys measuring the prevalence of drug, alcohol, and tobacco product use among the American household population age 12 and older. Estimates of drug use prevalence for the civilian, noninstitutionalized population of the United States are presented.

In 1999, the NHSDA underwent a major redesign. The method of data collection was changed from a paper questionnaire administration to a computer-assisted administration. In addition, the sample design was changed from a strictly national design to a State-based sampling plan. These changes to the NHSDA have a major impact on the data that are produced from the survey. The expanded sample makes it possible to produce, each year, substance use prevalence estimates for every State and the District of Columbia. It allows more detailed analyses of national patterns of use. However, because of the differences in methodology and impact of the new design on data collection, only limited comparisons can be made between data from the redesigned surveys (1999 and subsequent years) and data from surveys prior to 1999. Therefore, this edition of SOURCEBOOK presents data from only the 1999 and 2000 surveys.

The survey collects information from residents of households (living in houses/townhouses, apartments, condominiums, etc.), noninstitutional group quarters (e.g., shelters, rooming/boarder houses, college dormitories, migratory workers' camps, halfway houses, etc.), and civilians living on military bases. Persons excluded from the survey include homeless people who do not use shelters,

active military personnel, and residents of institutional group quarters, such as correctional facilities, nursing homes, mental institutions, and hospitals.

Prior to 1999, the NHSDA was conducted as a paper-and-pencil interview (PAPI) lasting about 1 hour. The NHSDA PAPI instrumentation consisted of a questionnaire booklet that was completed by the interviewer and a set of individual answer sheets that were completed by the respondent. Beginning in 1999, the NHSDA interview has been carried out by computer-assisted interviewing (CAI). The survey uses a combination of computer-assisted personal interviews (CAPI) conducted by the interviewer and audio computer-assisted self-interviews (ACASI). For the most part, questions previously administered by the interviewer are now administered by the interviewer using CAPI. Questions previously administered using answer sheets are now administered using ACASI. Use of ACASI is designed to provide the respondent with a highly private and confidential means of responding to questions and to increase the level of honest reporting of illicit drug use and other sensitive behaviors.

The 1999 and 2000 NHSDA sample designs are part of a coordinated 5-year sample design that will provide estimates for all 50 States and the District of Columbia for the years 1999 through 2003. For the 5-year 50-State design, 8 States were designated as large sample States (California, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas) with samples large enough to support direct State estimates. Sample sizes in these States ranged from 3,478 to 5,022. For the remaining 42 States and the District of Columbia, smaller, but adequate, samples were selected to support State estimates using small area estimation techniques. Sample sizes in these States ranged from 828 to 1,200.

States were first stratified into a total of 900 Field Interviewer (FI) regions (48 regions in each large sample State and 12 regions in each small sample State). These regions were contiguous geographic areas designed to yield the same number of interviews on average. Within FI regions, adjacent census blocks were combined to form the first stage sampling units, called area segments. A total of 96 segments per FI region were selected with probability proportional to population size in order to support the 5-year sample. Eight sample segments per FI region were fielded during the 2000 survey year.

These sampled segments were allocated equally into four separate samples, one for

each 3-month period during the year, so that the survey is essentially continuous in the field. In each of these area segments a listing of all addresses was made, from which a sample of 215,860 addresses was selected. Of these, 182,576 were determined to be eligible sample units. In these sample units (which can be either households or units within group quarters), sample persons were randomly selected using an automated screening procedure programmed in a hand-held computer carried by the interviewers. The number of sample units completing the screening was 169,769. Youth (age 12 to 17 years) and young adults (age 18 to 25 years) were oversampled at this stage. Because of the large sample size associated with this study, there was no need to oversample race/ethnicity groups, as was done for NHSDAs prior to 1999. A total of 91,961 persons were selected nationwide. Consistent with previous NHSDAs, the final respondent sample of 71,764 persons was representative of the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population age 12 and older. In addition, State samples were representative of their respective State populations.

The data collection method used in the NHSDA involves in-person interview with sampled persons, incorporating procedures that would be likely to increase respondents' cooperation and willingness to report honestly about their illicit drug use behavior. Confidentiality is stressed in all written and verbal communications with potential respondents, respondents' names are not collected with the data, and computer-assisted interviewing provides a private and confidential setting to complete the interview.

Introductory letters are sent to sampled addresses, followed by an interviewer visit. A 5-minute screening procedure conducted using a hand-held computer involves listing all household members along with their basic demographic data. The computer uses the demographic data in a preprogrammed selection formula to select 0, 1, or 2 person(s) to interview, depending on the composition of the household. This selection process is designed to provide the necessary sample sizes for the specified population age groupings.

Interviewers attempt to immediately conduct the NHSDA interview with each selected person in the household. The interviewer requests that the selected respondent identify a private area in the home away from other household members to conduct the interview. The interview averages about 1 hour, and includes a combination of CAPI and ACASI. The interview begins in the CAPI mode with the field interviewer reading the questions from the computer screen and entering the respondents' replies into the computer. The interview then transitions to the ACASI mode for sensitive questions. In this mode, the

respondent can read the questions silently on the computer screen and/or listen to the questions read through headphones and enter their responses directly into the computer. At the conclusion of the ACASI section, the interview returns to the CAPI mode with the interviewer completing the questionnaire.

Screening, interview, and item response patterns

Response rates for the NHSDA were stable for the period of 1994-98, with the screening response rate at about 93% and the interview response rate at about 78%. In 1999, the CAI screening response rate was 89.6% and the interview response rate was about 68.6%. A more stable and experienced field interviewer workforce improved these rates in 2000. Of the 182,576 eligible households sampled for the 2000 NHSDA, 169,769 were successfully screened for a weighted screening response rate of 92.8%. In these screened households, a total of 91,961 sample persons were selected, and completed interviews were obtained from 71,764 of these sample persons, for a weighted interview response rate of 73.9%. A total of 10,109 (15.0%) sample persons were classified as refusals, 4,834 (5.5%) were not available or never at home, and 5,254 (5.5%) did not participate for various other reasons, such as physical or mental incompetence or language barrier.

The increase in nonresponse between the 1998 and 1999 NHSDAs can be attributed primarily to the hiring of many new and inexperienced field interviewers in 1999 and a larger than usual turnover. By the end of 2000, the interviewer workforce primarily consisted of experienced interviewers and fewer were leaving.

The overall weighted response rate, defined as the product of the weighted screening response rate and the weighted interview response rate, was 61.5% in 1999 and 68.6% in 2000 (an 11.5% improvement over the 1999 rate).

Among survey participants, item response rates were above 98% for most questionnaire items. However, inconsistent responses for some items, including the drug use items, are common. Estimates of substance use from the NHSDA are based on the responses to multiple questions, so that the maximum amount of information is used in determining whether a respondent is classified as a drug user. Inconsistencies in responses are resolved through a logical editing process that involves some judgment on the part of the survey analysts and is a potential source of nonsampling error. Because of the

automatic routing through the CAI questionnaire (e.g., lifetime drug use questions that skip entire modules when answered "no"), there is less editing of this type than in the PAPI questionnaire used in previous years.

An important limitation of the NHSDA estimates of drug use prevalence is that they are designed to describe only the target population of the survey, i.e., the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 12 and older. Although this population includes almost 98% of the total U.S. population age 12 and older, it does exclude some important and unique subpopulations who may have very different drug-using patterns. The survey excludes active military personnel, who have been shown to have significantly lower rates of illicit drug use. Persons living in institutional group quarters, such as prisons and residential drug treatment centers, are not included in the NHSDA and have been shown in other surveys to have higher rates of illicit drug use. Also excluded are homeless persons not living in a shelter on the survey date, another population shown to have higher than average rates of illicit drug use.

Table 1. NHSDA sample sizes by demographic characteristics

	1999	2000
Total	66,706	71,764
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	32,092	34,386
Female	34,614	37,378
<u>Age group</u>		
12 to 17 years	25,357	25,717
18 to 25 years	21,933	22,613
26 years and older	19,416	23,434
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>		
White, non-Hispanic	46,054	49,415
Black, non-Hispanic	7,982	8,494
American Indian or Alaska Native	739	769
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	232	261
Asian	2,146	2,393
More than one race	1,072	1,039
Hispanic	8,481	9,393

Note: These sample size figures are the unweighted number of respondents in the 1999 and 2000 National Household Surveys on Drug Abuse.